

Text and photos by
Rania Atalla
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Despite the social constraints, the lack of opportunities and the limitations on working women in Jordan, three physically handicapped women have proven that there are no insurmountable problems in this society.

Not only were they able to find work, generate income and ensure economic self-sufficiency, but they also achieved a measure of social independence by living on their own. What they have established may well be a model for other women — handicapped or not.

Fawzieh, Maryam and Intisar first got together because they had to. "After spending a few years at a centre for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped there was nowhere for us to go," says Fawzieh — nowhere where they could be productive, that is.

"Work opportunities for us are scarce, if any are found at all. Since we cannot find work to satisfy all of us, and since we do not want to be a burden on our families, we decided to live together and do whatever work we could find," Fawzieh says.

Fortunately for the three of them, Fawzieh is employed as a full-time teacher. She is the main bread earner in the house. Maryam and Intisar work at home. They knit and embroider and accept odd jobs from various factories.

It wasn't, however, without a big struggle that the three women managed to achieve what they have. "We faced a lot of opposition from our parents," says Fawzieh, who is 34. "Personally, I had to make arrangements and get a house while my parents were out of town." In October of last year, she and Maryam moved into the house at the Abu Nseir housing complex. Intisar joined them a few months later.

For Maryam, the beginning was even more difficult than it was for Fawzieh. "My parents would not hear of it at first — they thought it was not proper for

me to live independently. Besides, my father kept telling me that I wouldn't be able to manage alone," she said.

Fortune, Fawzieh believes, had a role in all of this. "If the opportunities were not presented to me, I could not have done what I did." But it required more than just luck for her to accomplish all that she has so far — it took a proper education and much determination.

Forced out of school

At her parent's insistence, and against her will, Fawzieh was forced to leave school at the age of 15. At 17 she fell off the stairs, broke her back and became paralysed from the hips down.

"For three years my parents and the doctors kept telling me that sleeping on my back for a while would make me better. It was all nonsense, but I did not realise what had happened. I did not know what breaking my back meant," she says.

It took Fawzieh almost 10 years to learn to live with her handicap and to do something about it. When she did, she started by learning some skills. She took a typing course and worked as a secretary. But because she did not have a high school degree her low salary did not get her anywhere.

"I decided to take up the challenge and go back to school. I did it almost out of revenge against my parents, who made me quit while I was young," she says.

With financial assistance from the Young Women Christian Association (YWCA) and a scholarship from a local community college, she completed her education, and was able to take the next step forward. She is now a full-time teacher on loan from the Ministry of Education, working at Al Hussein Society for the Physically Handicapped, where she spent several years in rehabilitation.

Fawzieh looks back at her experience with a positive tone: "It



The 'three Mousquitaires' at their apartment in the Abu Nseir housing district

'Three for one, and one for all'

was difficult at first; I had a lot of questions and doubts. But now all the problems are solved." She adds that her independence "helped us a great deal in getting started." It enabled her to buy a house for the three to live in. Every month, she pays more than half of her salary as instalments for the house.

In this sense, Fawzieh is a role model, and it is perhaps her success that has led so many others, Maryam and Intisar included, to follow her example.

For although Maryam's background and case are different, in so many ways she hopes to follow Fawzieh's footsteps, and certainly looks to her for guidance.

Maryam was three years old when she was struck by polio. She had not had her immunisation shot — both legs and her left arm were affected. Because of her disability, her parents never sent her to school. "The only thing they thought about was treating me. They never thought of educating me," she says.

"When I was 13 I went to a centre for the handicapped and took literacy classes there. But it was very difficult and unpleasant. I was young and gave up easily. Now I regret it," she adds.

As she became older, Maryam came to realise that people can tolerate much more than what she had been through. I saw a lot of handicapped people doing

great things for themselves, and this is what motivated me to do something for myself as well," she says.

Right now and at home, Maryam is making use of the skills she acquired during the rehabilitation stage. With a smile, she recalls: "I hated sewing, but I had to learn it because I had no alternative — I had no education."

It is precisely for that reason that Maryam has not looked for employment opportunities outside the house. "I received no education when I was young, but when I grew up I wanted to learn; the problem was that there were no opportunities for me. Without an education I feel I could do nothing worthwhile," she adds.

But she does not intend to give up. With Fawzieh's encouragement, Maryam is now completing

her second year of literacy classes, which in June should bring her to fourth grade level.

'A step at a time'

She plans to go out and compete in the work market as soon as she finishes her education. "I will do it a step at a time. I have already started by learning to read. Eventually, I want to have a permanent job. I want the security," she insists. But until she

does, she will continue to work at home.

Fawzieh asserts that the whole concept stemmed out of a need. "Our condition as physically

handicapped is what brought us together," she says. But the idea does not stop here. Since she believes that it is difficult for the handicapped to find employment opportunities, the solution in her view is for the handicapped to create opportunities for themselves out of what they have learned and acquired — to create

work that would generate income.

"During the rehabilitation stage we were taught to be independent. This is the exact situation that we want to develop," Fawzieh says. Having work delivered to them at home is a suitable arrangement which, they believe, does not prevent them from being a part of society.

Previously, a plastics company used to deliver rolls of plastic sheets to them; they cut them into smaller pieces and earned 500 fils for every kilogramme. Right now, the three women have an understanding with a company that delivers plastic diaper pieces to them; they separate the pieces from one another and fold them individually. Every box of 3,000 pieces earns them JD 6.

Maryam and Intisar also use their skills for embroidery, sewing, knitting and woodwork. They are often assisted by Fawzieh. But for the three of them, the work of factories is more important because it brings them more income. The problem with handicraft work remains one of marketing. So far, they have sold their products at two bazaars — hardly a solid and stable enough outlet for their products, they believe. The third bazaar will be held on March 28 at the Faraj Rehabilitation Centre of King Hussein Medical City.

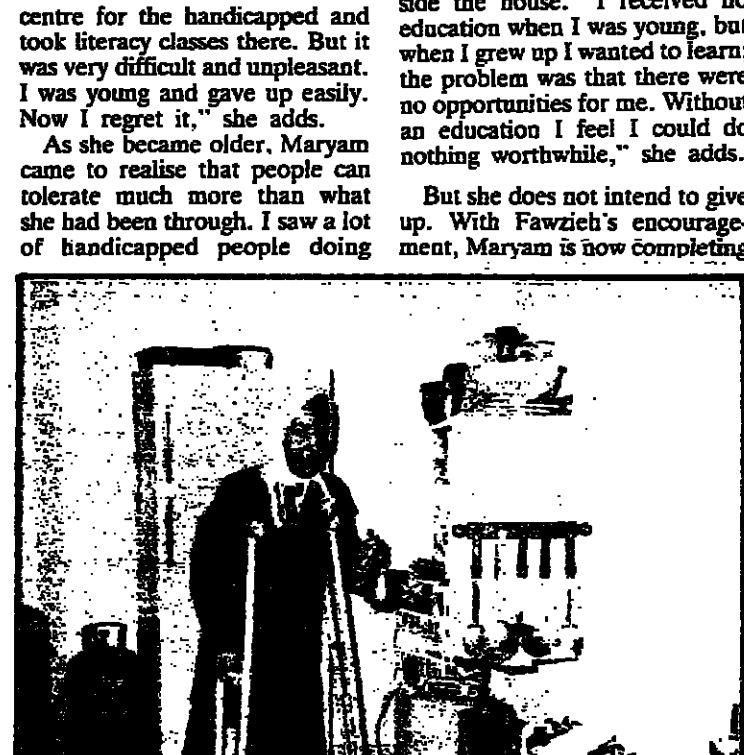
As far as the marketing problem is concerned, Fawzieh says "it would be very nice if a shop-owner, for example, buys all the knit-wear we produce and markets it alone." This sort of arrangement would be very suitable for them because as long as they are working actively they guarantee a steady income.

The three women have come a long way. The rehabilitation they got at Al Hussein Society for the Physically Handicapped was the first step towards independence.

Undoubtedly, they will face more challenges in the future. But despite all the factors working against them, they have set the precedent for others: They have proven that handicapped women can make it in this society, if they have the force of character and determination to do so.



Intisar hanging the laundry



Maryam making coffee



Fawzieh embroidering

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:50 Al Manahel (children's educational programme)

16:20 Special programmes on Islamic countries

17:00 Opening of OIC Foreign Ministers Meeting

20:00 News in Arabic

21:30 Arabic Series

22:30 Special programmes

23:00 News Summary

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Fespaco: A documentary about cinema in African countries

18:00 News in French

19:00 News in French

19:15 Weekly Sport magazine (French)

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Are You Being Served?

21:10 Vanity Fair (New classic drama series)

22:00 News in English

22:30 Feature film: "A Fight for Jenny"

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9580 KHz, SW

Tel: 774111-19

7:00 Light Music

7:30 Newsdesk

8:00 Morning Show

10:00 News Summary

10:05 Just a Minute

11:00 My Music

11:30 Readings

12:00 News Summary

12:05 Pop Session

13:00 News Summary

13:05 Pop Session Contd.

14:00 News Bulletin

14:30 Special Feature

15:00 Concert Hour

16:00 News Summary

16:05 Instrumentals

16:30 Old Favourites

17:00 Young Sound

17:30 Pop Session

18:00 News Summary

18:05 Sports Roundup

18:30 Music

19:00 Newsdesk

19:30 Date with a Star

20:00 Evening Show

21:00 News Summary

21:05 Evening Show Contd.

22:00 News Summary

22:05 Evening Show Continued

23:00 News Summary

23:05 Evening Show Continued

24:00 Close Down

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 8665, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 16:00 News 16:10 Newsline 16:30 Music USA 17:00 News 17:10 Focus 17:30 Special English News & Features 18:00 News 18:10 Newsline 18:30 Magazine Show 19:00 News 19:10 Focus 19:30 Special English News & Features 20:00 News 20:10 Newsline America 20:30 News USA 21:00 News & Editorial 21:15 Music USA Jazz 22:00 News 22:10 World Report

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

★ An art exhibition by Olivia Pallard at Alla Art Gallery (until March 28).

★ Book exhibition at the Comprehensive Commercial Centre (Tower Building), Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

★ "Fifth Caricature Exhibition," works of the late Neji Al Ali at Hussein Camp Youth Activities Centre.

★ General book exhibition at the Professional Associations Complex in Shmeisani.

★ An exhibition entitled "Reconstruction of Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock" at King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque.

★ Book exhibition at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Arts.

★ Art exhibition by Samir Zarour at the Jordan National Museum of Fine Arts (until end of March).

★ An exhibition entitled "Palestinian Uprising" at Lababeh Bint Al Harish School, Jerash (runs through March 22).

★ An agricultural exhibition at the University of Jordan, Faculty of Agriculture (runs through 23 March).

★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Bouls and Mounira Al Tunisiyah at the Housing Bank Gallery (runs through April 19).

DRAWING WORKSHOP

★ Drawing Workshop (Atelier De Peinture) 10:00 - 12:00 noon at French Cultural Centre (runs through March 24).

BRITISH COUNCIL

★ Tribute to David Hockney Grimm's "The Tales from 18-24" to 6:00 p.m. at the British Council. (runs through Sunday 27 March).

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel. 7:30 p.m.

The Palmyra Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Ammon Hotel. 7:30 p.m.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624900.

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.

Terraviva Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622665.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Al-Baidi. Tel. 633541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383, chaplain's residence tel. 601359.

Armenian Catholic Church Astralchik. Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Astralchik. Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syria Orthodox) Astralchik. Tel. 771751.

Amman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 677334.

Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Smir 811285.

LECTURES

★ "How Privatization Works," by Dr. Sherry Stephenson of the OECD Trade Department at 10:00 a.m. at American Centre.

★ Developments of the Arab Cause, by Abdul Hadi Boutsaleb at 6:30 p.m. at Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

★ Le charme discret de la bourgeoisie at 8:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

★ Below Segregation (meets at the Good Shepherd Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical-ecumenical. Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 822605. Rev. Vellu.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons) Tel. 818971, 821264.

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 5320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:15 Aqaba (RJ)

09:20 Laraca (RJ)

09:30 Cairo (RJ)

09:30 Damascus (RJ)

09:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)

09:30 Kuwait (RJ)

09:50 Doha (RJ)

09:55 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (RJ)

10:00 Sana'a, Jeddah (RJ)

10:45 New York, Vienna (RJ)

11:25 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)

18:45 Bangkok (RJ)

23:55 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:20 Sana'a (LH)

11:00 Baghdad (IA)

09:35 Cairo (MS)

12:00 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)

13:40 Kuwait (KU)

18:25 Beirut (ME)

20:45 Vienna (OA)

06:30 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:00 Aqaba (RJ)

11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

11:30 Beirut (ME)

11:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)

12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)

12:30 Cairo (RJ)

19:00 Jeddah (RJ)

19:35 Kuwait (RJ)

19:50 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

19:55 Baghdad (RJ)

20:15 Cairo (RJ)

20:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)

06:30 Beirut (MEA)

10:10 Frankfurt (LH)

10:20 Cairo (MS)

12:00 Vienna (OA)

13:45 Bahrain (GF)

PRAYER TIMES

04:14 Fajr

05:32 Sunrise

11:43 Dhuhr

15:11 Asr

17:53 Maghreb

19:11 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates

Local sell/buy rates in fils

Belgian franc 94.9 / 96.4

Dutch guilder 176.7 / 179.5

French franc 98.5 / 99.4

Italian lira 26.5 / 27.3

Japanese yen (for 100) 262.5 / 267.8

Swedish crown 56.3 / 57

Swiss franc 239.1 / 243.6

U.S. sterling pound 612.7 / 623.9

U.S. dollar 334.3 / 341.4

W. German mark 198.3 / 201.8

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy to cloudy with chances of scattered shower showers and north-westerly moderate freshening winds. In Aqaba, it will be cloudy with chances of scattered rains. The winds will be southerly and calm seas.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 5 / 11

Aqaba 12 / 22

Deserts 6 / 13

Jordan Valley 10 / 17

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 10, Aqaba 26. Humidity readings: Amman 94 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent.

EMERGENCIES

NIGHT DUTY

Amman governorate 891228

Amman Civil Defence 198, 199

Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131

Civil Defence Qusweimeh 770733

Civil Defence Deir Alla 57306

Ambulance 193, 775111

Amman downtown fire brigade 198

First aid 630341

Blood Bank 778303

Fire headquarters 62200-3

Police rescue 372, 621111, 637777

Police headquarters 639141

Traffic police 896390/1

Electric Power Co. 636381/4, 624881

Municipal water complaints 771256

Queen Alia Intl. Airport (08)533040

TAKIS:

Sa'id taxi 898434

Badawi taxi 792511

Aqrabawi taxi 922830

Kayali taxi 786030

Tyad taxi 740317

Mu'in taxi 895364

HOSPITALS

F Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 642412

Alien Maternity, J. Amn 642412

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malhas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmeisani 664174

Shmeisani Hospital 669131

University Hospital 645853

Al-Muasher Hospital 667272

The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37

Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164

Italian, Al-Mutajreh 777013

Al-Basheir, J. Askrabeh 771112/6

Army, Marja 891615

Queen Alia Hospital 602040/20

Amal Hospital 674155

GENERAL

Jordan Television 773111/19

Radio Jordan 774111/19

Ministry of Tourism 622211

Hotel complaints 666412

Price complaints 661176

Telephone Information 13

Jordan and Middle East calls 10

Overseas calls 17

Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (French) 420 / 380

Apple (green) 470 / 400

Banana 350 / 300

Banana (Mikamary) 300 / 240

Beans 650 / 630

Beans (broad) 270 / 230

Cabbage 230 / 180

Carrot 280 / 220

Cauliflower (white) 160 / 120

Cucumbers 560 / 540

Eggplant (large) 280 / 220

Eggplant (small) 280 / 220

Garlic 140 / 100

Garlic (green) 200 / 150

Grapefruit 270 / 220

Lemon 300 / 150

Marrow 280 / 200

Onion (green) 140 / 100

Onion (dry) 220 / 170

Oranges (local) 180 / 140

Oranges (Shamouni) 350 / 300

Peas 480 / 400

Pepper (hot) 540 / 560

Pepper (sweet) 360 / 300

Potato 100 / 80

Radishes 120 / 80

Spinach 120 / 80

Tomatoes 180 / 120

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEF

ROYAL DECREES: A Royal Decree was issued Sunday approving the new antiquities law of 1988. The law defines the tasks and duties of the Department of Antiquities in the course of unearthing Jordan's antiquities and artefacts and preserving them. The law also defined the specific penalties to be imposed on those causing damage to or illegally dealing with antiquities. A Royal Decree has also been issued endorsing the Agricultural Credit Corporation revised law and defining the corporation's duties.

CROWN PRINCE: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday called at the Prime Ministry where he held talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

PRINCE THANKS: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has sent a cable to Ali Al Dajani thanking him for presenting him a copy of a book on Jerusalem, written by Dajani and Irfan Nizamuddin.

NEW MAYORS: The Cabinet Sunday decided to appoint Hassan Abu Ruman and Fares Nahar Shalhat as mayors of Um Jouzeh and Manshiet Banat Hassan municipalities respectively.

CABINET ENDORSES: The Cabinet Sunday endorsed minutes of the joint Jordanian-Sudanese Economic Committee, which were held in Khartoum on March 6.

LOCAL DEPOSIT LAW: Culture and National Heritage Minister Mohammad Hammouri Sunday decided to form a special committee, to look into the draft Deposit Local Law and putting it in its final form for approval. The committee groups Libraries, Documentation and National Archives Director Ahmad Sharkas, the University of Jordan's Scientific Research Dean Adnan Al Bakhit, University of Jordan Library Director Hani Al Amad, University of Jordan Legal Affairs Department Director Bashar Abdul Hadi, Yarmouk University Library Director Farouq Mansour and Usama Miqdadi from the Culture and National Heritage Ministry.

ROAD ACCIDENTS: The Health Ministry will take part in a regional consultancy seminar on road accidents due to open in Baghdad on April 10. Dr. Khalid Daoud from the ministry's Health Care Department will represent the ministry at the meetings.

DELEGATION FORMED: The Cabinet Sunday formed Jordan's delegation to the Arab Health Ministers Council meeting due to open in Amman in the coming month. Health Minister Zaid Hammeh will lead the delegation to the five-day meeting, during which general questions related to health cooperation among Arab countries will be discussed. The council is also expected to discuss a project for setting up an Arab Hospital for Jerusalem to offer services to the local Palestinian population, according to Health Ministry officials.

NOMINEES WITHDRAW: Two agricultural engineers Saturday withdrew their nominations for the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Association Council, thus bringing to 20 the number of nominees for the association's council. Elections of the council will take place Friday.

SYMPOSIUM ON GULF WAR: University of Jordan Economic and Administrative Sciences Faculty Dean Wadi Sharaidah participated in an international symposium on the Iran-Iraq war and its effects, held in Baghdad from March 12 to 14.

HEALTH CARE: A newly formed health education team in Karak Governorate has recently organised awareness campaigns to school students and has shown them a number of films about cleanliness and personal hygiene.

NEW POST OFFICES: The Ministry of Telecommunications has decided to open post office branches in Kumm Ahmar, and Dandaneh villages at Mafrqa Governorate. The branches will open once suitable buildings to house them have been found, according to Telecommunications Department Director in Mafrqa Lutfi Momani.

11,600 PILLS: The customs authorities at the Queen Alia International Airport have discovered 11,600 drug pills, hidden in an electric heater, being brought into the country. The heater was carried by a passenger arriving from Athens, according to the authorities quoted by Al Rai Arabic daily Sunday. The paper did not disclose the nationality of the passenger.

BANK GUARANTEES: A week-long training course on bank guarantees is underway at the Industrial Development Bank's Jordanian Management Institute. Seventeen senior officials from banks and financial and industrial companies are taking part in the course, which will orient them on bank guarantees and related services.

AGRICULTURE: The University of Jordan has organised an agricultural exhibition displaying domestic plants, seeds, farm implements and insecticides that are being used at the university's farms. The four-week exhibition also displays birds and fish.

230 LICENCES: The agriculture department in Zarqa has issued 230 licences to farmers implementing the agricultural patterns system during the current season. Department Director Mohammad Lawzi said that teams from the department carried out inoculation on 119 heads of cattle at Zarqa and Duleil and 9,132 heads of sheep and goats. The animals, he said, have been inoculated to immunise them against diseases.

ELECTRIC SUPPLY: The Jordan Electricity Company this year will supply electric power to 20 villages in Madaba district during 1988. A company spokesman said that the total cost of this project is estimated at JD 1,147,777.

JD 40,882 BUDGET: The 1988 budget for Um Quttain and Manshiet in Naour District is JD 40,882, according to the head of the local council. He said that funds in this budget will finance the construction of annexes to schools and opening roads.

3 NEW ROADS: The Department of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment in Madaba District opened three village roads at the cost of JD 17,000. The roads link Madaba with Hanou, Manshiet, Ma'in and Umi Zara.

COURSE FOR DOCTORS: A three-day training course for 23 doctors from the Health Ministry was concluded Sunday. The participants were oriented on skills needed to counter diarrhoea among children and on vaccination processes.

BOOK WEEK: The Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives will organise a national book week in Jordan as of April 1, according to a department spokesman. He said that the week-long activities will include lectures and book exhibitions.

CIVIL DEFENCE COURSE: A civil defence training course opened in Ain Al Basha Vocational Training Centre Sunday. The participants will hear lectures and practical work in the 10-day course.

MAINTENANCE COURSE: A month-long training course on the maintenance of electric appliances and equipment ended here Sunday. The participants were 35 local women who would benefit from the new skills at their homes.

EXHIBITION: A two-day exhibition entitled the Uprising in Palestine was held Sunday at Lubabah Bint Al Hareth school in Jerash, to mark the Karameh Battle and the Mothers' Day.

POPULAR MARKET: The Jerash District governor Sunday presided over a meeting, attended by the department directors, during which they decided to set up a permanent popular market in Jerash to market the traditional handicrafts and industries and agricultural products.

12,158 PATIENTS: Jerash district health centres and clinics received 12,158 patients during February, while the number of those who called at the dental clinics totalled 278 patients. The Jerash hospital received 459 in-bed patients while some 4,249 patients called at the hospital's outpatient clinics, during the same period.

TRAFFIC IN IRBID: Irbid municipality has prepared plans for organising traffic within the city of Irbid. Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubashar said that the designs and plans were proposed by a special technical committee grouping Amman municipality, Irbid municipality and the Public Security Department.

SENTENCE APPROVED: The military court has sentenced Sadi Abdullah Hassan to one year imprisonment for possessing hashish. The military governor Sunday endorsed the sentence.

GERMAN STUDENTS: A student delegation from Alexander Friedrich Nuremberg University in West Germany Saturday visited Yarmouk University and were briefed on the university's development and future plans and programmes. The delegation is visiting Jordan to conduct studies about Jordan.

AJLOUN PROGRAMME: A week-long training programme for mayors and heads of local councils in Ajloun and Jerash ended here Saturday. The 25 participants were oriented on matters connected with municipal work and the management of development schemes.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai receives Turkish Minister of State for Planning, Finance and Foreign Trade Yusef Ozal in Amman Sunday (Petra photo)

Turkish minister leaves for home

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — Turkish Minister of State for Finance, Trade and Planning Yusef Ozal Sunday left for home after concluding three days of talks with Jordanian officials on strengthening Turkish-Jordanian economic and trade cooperation.

On his last day here, Ozal met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and discussed with him means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in economic, finance, electricity and irrigation fields.

Ozal had held talks with Ministers of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib on

plans to set up a joint committee, together with Egypt and Syria, to study the possibilities of linking the electricity grids of the four countries.

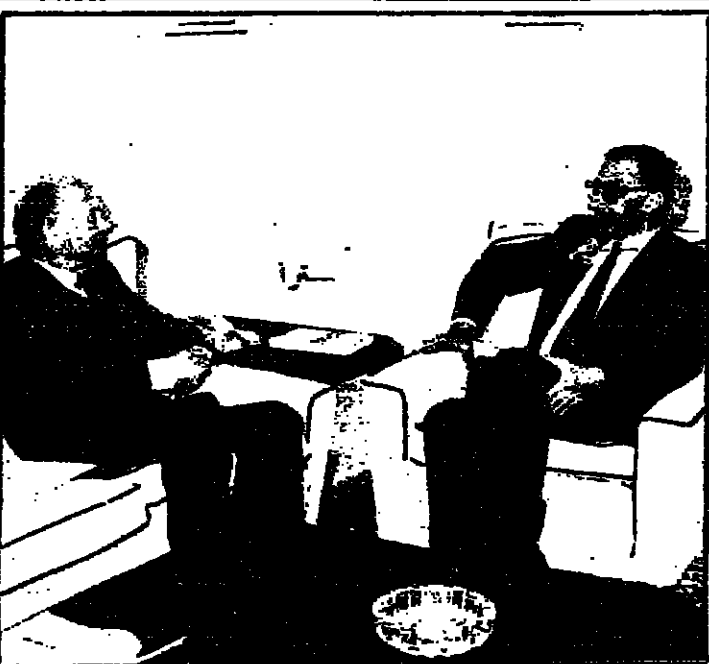
He also held talks with Minister of Water and Irrigation Ahmad Dakhqan on the prospects of laying a water pipeline network linking Turkey with Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the Gulf states.

According to Ministry of Water and Irrigation sources Turkey

would supply water to Arab countries, according to a study undertaken by a group of consultant companies.

The meeting with the prime minister was attended by Khatib and Turkish Ambassador to Jordan Semih Belen.

Ozal who earlier met with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was seen off upon departure by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Khatib and senior officials as well as the Turkish ambassador.



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi Sunday receives in his office Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation Director General Abdul Hadi Abu Taleb (Petra photo)

Hindawi holds talks with ISESCO director general

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi met in his office Sunday with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO) Director General Abdul Hadi Abu Taleb. They reviewed ISESCO's activities and programmes in propagating Islamic literature and Jordan's role in supporting the organisation's programmes.

Preparation for the Islamic countries education ministers' conference, due to be held in

Amman later this year, were also discussed at the meeting.

Hindawi to open vocational school

On Wednesday, Hindawi will open the Princess Aisha Bint Al Hussein vocational school for girls in Ajloun, and an exhibition by school students in the district.

The minister will attend a cultural event organised by the students from around the Kingdom at Marj Al Hamam Secondary Vocational School Thursday.

Red Cross, Red Crescent societies begin meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — The executive committee of the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies opened meetings in Amman Sunday to discuss matters related to their societies' activities and cooperation in the implementation of humanitarian programmes.

One of the major issues to be discussed at the meeting is providing assistance to the Palestinian people now involved in an uprising in the occupied Arab territories. Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Presi-

dent Ahmad Abu Qoura addressed the meeting in which he called on Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies to support the uprising with all their available means.

Apart from the uprising the delegates will discuss the implementation of earlier resolutions and the outcome of the Red Crescent and Red Cross meetings in Qatar last March.

Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Mauritania and Qatar are represented at the two-day meeting.

Hammouri, Ajlouni visit Petra

PETRA (Petra) — Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri and Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni Friday visited the ancient Nabatean city of Petra and the adjoining town of Wadi Musa, where they met with officials and inspected services offered to tourists.

Both ministers made statements stressing the government's determination to develop and modernise tourist services.

Later, at a meeting with the Wadi Musa Municipal Council, an agreement was reached for carrying out cleanliness campaigns at the tourist site and at the Forum Hotel on a regular basis.

It was also decided that studies and designs be worked out for the restoration of the approaches to the Nabatean city, and for promoting the efficiency of tourist guides.

A statement later said that equipment will be installed inside Petra to ensure quick communications, a medical clinic will be set up to offer first aid, as well as to provide other public services.

A library, displaying books and publications on the archaeological site, will be opened inside the Nabatean city, according to the statement.

According to the statement a total of 1,500 people from Jordan and foreign countries visited Petra Friday.

Jordan to celebrate Karameh Battle anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Monday celebrates the anniversary of Al Karameh Battle, which took place in 1968 near the Karameh village in the Jordan Valley.

On the eve of the occasion, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said in a statement that a major Israeli attack across the River Jordan into the East Bank was transformed into a defeat for the enemy and a victory for the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Jordanian people.

"The Karameh Battle of 1968 helped the Arabs to overcome their setback in the 1967 war, and breathed into the nation a new spirit for steadfastness and victory," Petra said.

It said the battle was described by His Majesty King Hussein as "a turning point in the confrontation with the Israeli enemy, and one in which the armed forces offered sacrifices in defence of the Arab nation."

The battle, ended an era of despair that prevailed in the Arab World following the 1967 setback, and proved that the Arabs are capable of confronting threats and dangers in dealing with the invaders, Petra said.

Meanwhile Yarmouk University will hold a photo exhibition to commemorate the Karameh Battle anniversary.

The photographs depict Jordan's development in scientific and economic fields and the development of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

In Karak, Mu'ta University held a ceremony Sunday in commemoration of Karameh Battle. Speakers paid tribute to the sacrifices of the Armed Forces in the battle and referred to Israel's expansionist plans in the Arab countries.

Ministry to pay fees of Gazan students in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Higher Education will pay fees of students from the occupied Gaza Strip studying at universities in the East Bank of Jordan in accordance with government instructions, Al Rai Arabic daily reported Sunday.

It said that Gaza students will be treated on equal footing with Jordanian students in Jordanian universities.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs had earlier announced that it has embarked on arrangements for paying JD 50 allowance a month to students from the occupied Arab territories cut off from their parents due to the current uprising.

Queen Noor inaugurates special education centre in Baqaa refugee camp

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Sunday visited Baqaa refugee camp and inaugurated a special education centre run by the Mental Health Society.

The Queen also inaugurated a kindergarten run by the Friends of Jerusalem Society and inspected another operated by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

The special education centre, which offers special training to 75 handicapped children, was built in 1987 with donations from the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs and personal contributions.

The Queen who toured the centre presented the society shield to Mrs. Hafiza Latta of the British Council for her efforts in raising a sum of JD 13,000 to finance the centre's operations. A total of 40 children attend

this day-centre, the only one of its kind in the camp, where the children learn basic reading and writing skills and simple abilities to help them integrate into the society.

GUVS President Abdullah Al Khatib told the Queen that the centre is similar to three other ones run by GUVS in Amman, Zarqa and Wadi Seer, and all together train 375 handicapped children.

He said that GUVS plans to open two such centres in the Central Jordan Valley region.

Khatib said that the Baqaa centre which cost JD 34,000 to complete has a kindergarten employing a six-member staff.

Later Sunday the Queen opened a kindergarten and a centre for training 40 women in dress making, financed by the Friends of Jerusalem Society at the cost of JD 45,000.

The Queen heard a briefing by the society's President Mohammad Rabie about the centre's services and received a token gift on the occasion.

The Friends of Jerusalem Society was established in 1967 and has a permanent headquarters in Baqaa camp.

The Queen also inspected a kindergarten and a sewing workshop operated by the YWCA. She met with the association President Nadia Freij, who explained the activities and the training programmes for local women who produce uniforms and special clothes for hotel and hospital staff.

The YWCA offers education to 300 local children.



Her Majesty Queen Noor inaugurates a special education centre in Baqaa refugee camp Sunday (Petra photo)

Municipalities crack down on unsafe food

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality has collected and destroyed unspecified quantities of food found unfit for human consumption, according to a municipal official Sunday.

He said that a municipal team collected the food from different stores in the city during an inspection tour and said that more inspection tours will be conducted to prevent any violation of the regulations.

In Jerash public safety committee teams have been involved in tours of stores and also factories and garages, to ensure that their owners abide by public safety regulations.

Committee Chairman Aref Abu Karaki said that an order has been issued for the closure of five auto-service shops for their violations of the regulations.

Abu Karaki said that the concerned municipal authorities are

also intensifying their campaigns to rid the Jerash district of stray dogs, wild boars and other wild animals found in the region.

He said that large numbers of these wild animals have been killed because they were causing real danger to people and farm animals.

The Public Health Safety Committee in Balqa Governorate conducted an inspection campaign in Salt and collected unspecified quantities of food which was found to be unfit for human consumption.

The committee confiscated the food and destroyed it, and also issued warnings to food stores to abide by the committee's safety regulations.

Meanwhile the Ramtha Municipal Council has decided to close 16 garages along the Amman-Damascus road near Ramtha for their violation of the public health safety regulations. Mayor Salim Qtaish said that the municipality is keen on protecting the environment.

The ambassador called on Lawzi in a farewell visit. Lawzi praised the ambassador for his efforts in strengthening his country's relations with Jordan during his term as ambassador here.

Lawzi receives Austrian envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi discussed here Sunday with Austrian Ambassador to Jordan Arnold Moebius on Jordanian-Austrian cooperation in different fields.

الآن أحدث جهاز تلصق من هازل في الاردن والتسويق في
شركة دار مهنا الهندسة تقدم
EASYCOM BY Hasler
EASY يقوم بإرسال الرسائل باليافيد عنك ويطبع النتائج
لجمل الاعمال الناجح بحاجة الى جهاز التلصق حيث
1. التلصق اقل كلفة وأكثر فاعلية من الرسائل المكتوبة في العالم
2. انت واثق من هوية ورقم المرسلة
3. نوعية واتساع شبكة التلصق عبر العالم متزايدة
شركات المصارف والفنادق
4. عدد مشترك التلصق في المصارف حوالي 1 مليون فكل تستطيع التعامل مع هذا
التعداد المتزايد بدون جهاز التلصق !!
5. تقدم مرسلات التلصق كوثيقة تجارية مقبولة يمكن مرسلات التلصق (صورة)
6. التوفير في الاتصالات حيث تكب فقط ما تريد وياخذت
7. ينقل التلصق بواسطة الترميز الرقمي DIGITAL فيكون واضحاً دائماً ولا يحتاج
لتكرار الرسالة مثل مرسلات الفاكس
8. يستعمل الورق العادي (ليس ورقاً حرارياً خاصاً) (THERMAL PAPER)
مثل الفاكس في غير هازل من مزايا متكررة (RUNNING COST)

الجهاز في الاعمال التجارية وللمهنة يحتاج الى جهاز التلصق
وإذا كنت الجديد من هازل
أول جهاز تلصق من فلسفة المستقبل
EASY HASLER CONNECTS YOU TO THE FUTURE TODAY
مزدود برنامج المساعدة HELP MENU تماماً كالكمبيوتر
EASY يقدم متعة EDIT ويستعمل آلة طباعة
EASY سهولة الواجهة حسب الطلب
EASY سهولة التحضير والتصحيح والتشغيل بفلسفة جديدة
EASY متطور يمكن ربطه بأجهزة أخرى، وحدة تخزين، شاشة كبيرة، قرص مضغوط
EASY

لترتيب من المبيعات والتسويق، الوكلاء
شركة دار مهنا الهندسة
شارع وادي صفيحة... عمارة كبدونية - الطابق الأول
الهاتف 6112 - 6113 - 6114 - 6115 - 6116 - 6117 - 6118 - 6119 - 6120 - 6121 - 6122 - 6123 - 6124 - 6125 - 6126 - 6127 - 6128 - 6129 - 6130 - 6131 - 6132 - 6133 - 6134 - 6135 - 6136 - 6137 - 6138 - 6139 - 6140 - 6141 - 6142 - 6143 - 6144 - 6145 - 6146 - 6147 - 6148 - 6149 - 6150 - 6151 - 6152 - 6153 - 6154 - 6155 - 6156 - 6157 - 6158 - 6159 - 6160 - 6161 - 6162 - 6163 - 6164 - 6165 - 6166 - 6167 - 6168 - 6169 - 6170 - 6171 - 6172 - 6173 - 6174 - 6175 - 6176 - 6177 - 6178 - 6179 - 6180 - 6181 - 6182 - 6183 - 6184 - 6185 - 6186 - 6187 - 6188 - 6189 - 6190 - 6191 - 6192 - 6193 - 6194 - 6195 - 6196 - 6197 - 6198 - 6199 - 6200 - 6201 - 6202 - 6203 - 6204 - 6205 - 6206 - 6207 - 6208 - 6209 - 6210 - 6211 - 6212 - 6213 - 6214 - 6215 - 6216 - 6217 - 6218 - 6219 - 6220 - 6221 - 6222 - 6223 - 6224 - 6225 - 6226 - 6227 - 6228 - 6229 - 6230 - 6231 - 6232 - 6233 - 6234 - 6235 - 6236 - 6237 - 6238 - 6239 - 6240 - 6241 - 6242 - 6243 - 6244 - 6245 - 6246 - 6247 - 6248 - 6249 - 6250 - 6251 - 6252 - 6253 - 6254 - 6255 - 6256 - 6257 - 6258 - 6259 - 6260 - 6261 - 6262 - 6263 - 6264 - 6265 - 6266 - 6267 - 6268 - 6269 - 6270 - 6271 - 6272 - 6273 - 6274 - 6275 - 6276 - 6277 - 6278 - 6279 - 6280 - 6281 - 6282 - 6283 - 6284 - 6285 - 6286 - 6287 - 6288 - 6289 - 6290 - 6291 - 6292 - 6293 - 6294 - 6295 - 6296 - 6297 - 6298 - 6299 - 6300 - 6301 - 6302 - 6303 - 6304 - 6305 - 6306 - 6307 - 6308 - 6309 - 6310 - 6311 - 6312 - 6313 - 6314 - 6315 - 6316 - 6317 - 6318 - 6319 - 6320 - 6321 - 6322 - 6323 - 6324 - 6325 - 6326 - 6327 - 6328 - 6329 - 6330 - 6331 - 6332 - 6333 - 6334 - 6335 - 6336 - 6337 - 6338 - 6339 - 6340 - 6341 - 6342 - 6343 - 6344 - 6345 - 6346 - 6347 - 6348 - 6349 - 6350 - 6351 - 6352 - 6353 - 6354 - 6355 - 6356 - 6357 - 6358 - 6359 - 6360 - 6361 - 6362 - 6363 - 6364 - 6365 - 6366 - 6367 - 6368 - 6369 - 6370 - 6371 - 6372 - 6373 - 6374 - 6375 - 6376 - 6377 - 6378 - 6379 - 6380 - 6381 - 6382 - 6383 - 6384 - 6385 - 6386 - 6387 - 6388 - 6389 - 6390 - 6391 - 6392 - 6393 - 6394 - 6395 - 6396 - 6397 - 6398 - 6399 - 6400 - 6401 - 6402 - 6403 - 6404 - 6405 - 6406 - 6407 - 6408 - 6409 - 6410 - 6411 - 6412 - 6413 - 6414 - 6415 - 6416 - 6417 - 6418 - 6419 - 6420 - 6421 - 6422 - 6423 - 6424 - 6425 - 6426 - 6427 - 6428 - 6429 - 6430 - 6431 - 6432 - 6433 - 6434 - 6435 - 6436 - 6437 - 6438 - 6439 - 6440 - 6441 - 6442 - 6443 - 6444 - 6445 - 6446 - 6447 - 6448 - 6449 - 6450 - 6451 - 6452 - 6453 - 6454 - 6455 - 6456 - 6457 - 6458 - 6459 - 6460 - 6461 - 6462 - 6463 - 6464 - 6465 - 6466 - 6467 - 6468 - 6469 - 6470 - 6471 - 6472 - 6473 - 6474 - 6475 - 6476 - 6477 - 6478 - 6479 - 6480 - 6481 - 6482 - 6483 - 6484 - 6485 - 6486 - 6487 - 6488 - 6489 - 6490 - 6491 - 6492 - 6493 - 6494 - 6495 - 6496 - 6497 - 6498 - 6499 - 6500 - 6501 - 6502 - 6503 - 6504 - 6505 - 6506 - 6507 - 6508 - 6509 - 6510 - 6511 - 6512 - 6513 - 6514 - 6515 - 6516 - 6517 - 6518 - 6519 - 6520 - 6521 - 6522 - 6523 - 6524 - 6525 - 6526 - 6527 - 6528 - 6529 - 6530 - 6531 - 6532 - 6533 - 6534 - 6535 - 6536 - 6537 - 6538 - 6539 - 6540 - 6541 - 6542 - 6543 - 6544 - 6545 - 6546 - 6547 - 6548 - 6549 - 6550 - 6551 - 6552 - 6553 - 6554 - 6555 - 6556 - 6557 - 6558 - 6559 - 6560 - 6561 - 6562 - 6563 - 6564 - 6565 - 6566 - 6567 - 6568 - 6569 - 6570 - 6571 - 6572 - 6573 - 6574 - 6575 - 6576 - 6577 - 6578 - 6579 - 6580 - 6581 - 6582 - 6583 - 6584 - 6585 - 6586 - 6587 - 6588 - 6589 - 6590 - 6591 - 6592 - 6593 - 6594 - 6595 - 6596 - 6597 - 6598 - 6599 - 6600 - 6601 - 6602 - 6603 - 6604 - 6605 - 6606 - 6607 - 6608 - 6609 - 6610 - 6611 - 6612 - 6613 - 6614 - 6615 - 6616 - 6617 - 6618 - 6619 - 6620 - 6621 - 6622 - 6623 - 6624 - 6625 - 6626 - 6627 - 6628 - 6629 - 6630 - 6631 - 6632 - 6633 - 6634 - 6635 - 6636 - 6637 - 6638 - 6639 - 6640 - 6641 - 6642 - 6643 - 6644 - 6645 - 6646 - 6647 - 6648 - 6649 - 6650 - 6651 - 6652 - 6653 - 6654 - 6655 - 6656 - 6657 - 6658 - 6659 - 6660 - 6661 - 6662 - 6663 - 6664 - 6665 - 6666 - 6667 - 6668 - 6669 - 6670 - 6671 - 6672 - 6673 - 6674 - 6675 - 6676 - 6677 - 6678 - 6679 - 6680 - 6681 - 6682 - 6683 - 6684 - 6685 - 6686 - 6687 - 6688 - 6689 - 6690 - 6691 - 6692 - 6693 - 6694 - 6695 - 6696 - 6697 - 6698 - 6699 - 6700 - 6701 - 6702 - 6703 - 6704 - 6705 - 6706 - 6707 - 6708 - 6709 - 6710 - 6711 - 6712 - 6713 - 6714 - 6715 - 6716 - 6717 - 6718 - 6719 - 6720 - 6721 - 6722 - 6723 - 6724 - 6725 - 6726 - 6727 - 6728 - 6729 - 6730 - 6731 - 6732 - 6733 - 6734 - 6735 - 6736 - 6737 - 6738 - 6739 - 6740 - 6741 -

ADC seeks details of Shamir's terrorist background and to put him on 'watch list'

WASHINGTON (J.T.) — The American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) has sued five U.S. government agencies seeking access to documents pertaining to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's involvement in terrorist activities as part of the infamous Stern Gang.

In a letter dated March 10 and addressed to Attorney General Edwin Meese, ADC further requested that Shamir be placed on the border watch list in his capacity as a private citizen.

Following is the text of the letter:

By virtue of the authority vested in you as attorney general we respectfully request that you place the name of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir (a.k.a. Yitzhak Yezemitsky) on the border "watch list" and order him excludable in his personal capacity from entering the United States pursuant to Section 212 of the Immigration and Naturalization Act.

The basis for this request rests on the long history and involvement of Shamir as a leader of

the infamous Stern Gang (LEHI organisation) which was responsible for numerous acts of terrorism including:

1. The Aug. 8, 1944 attempted assassination of British High Commissioner Sir Harold MacMichael in Tel Aviv;
2. The Nov. 6, 1944 attempted assassination of the British Minister Resident in the Middle East, Lord Moyne (Sir Walter Guinness in Cairo, Egypt);
3. The April 9, 1948 massacre of 254 unarmed civilians at the Arab village of Deir Yassin; and,
4. The Sept. 17, 1948 murder of United Nations mediator Count Folke Bernadotte in Jerusalem.

Given the established precedent decisions by the United States government, including recent actions by your office, we are confident that you will apply the same standards in this case, especially given the proven and heinous nature of the crimes involved.

Maghreb pact anniversary passes without Libya

TUNIS (R) — The fifth anniversary of a Maghreb pact seen by its three signatories as a step towards a wider regional power bloc slipped by Saturday without the hoped-for membership by Libya.

Algeria, which signed the non-aggression treaty with Tunisia and Mauritania in 1983, had campaigned strenuously in the past few months to woo Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi into joining the treaty.

After widespread press speculation about a four-nation Maghreb summit marking the pact, the anniversary was contrastingly low key.

Even plans for a meeting involving existing member states fell through.

Mauritanian President Maouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, who was to have joined Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, and the number two in Algeria's ruling party, Mohammed Cherif Messadia, abruptly put off a visit to Tunis this week.

No reason was given. Qadhafi's insistence on doing away with national frontiers as a last-minute public condition for joining the treaty provided one major obstacle to widening the pact.

Tunisian government officials made clear this and other Libyan conditions would have to be studied in depth as the pact is based on respect for national borders and sovereignty.

Tunisia's stand prompted speculation that it was trying to mediate between Algeria and Morocco over the 12-year-old Western Sahara war, in which Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas are fighting for the independence of the territory from Rabat.

But a senior Foreign Ministry official in Tunis cautioned: "We do not think we are acting as mediators... there is no technical mediation."

He told Reuters that Tunis was simply making constant efforts to reconcile the two neighbours and stressed that United Nations efforts were continuing to try to reach a settlement on the future of the Western Sahara.

Algeria acknowledged that the Western Sahara conflict was an obstacle to widening the 1983 treaty in a commentary published this week by the official APS news agency.

But it raised a new issue, alleging that "the existence of foreign military bases on Moroccan territory" also presented a problem. Morocco denies there are any bases.

The pact is also seen as a basis for greater economic cooperation, in the form of a common market, among members.

The treaty, signed March 19, 1983 in Tunis, came after Tunisia accused Libya of training Tunisian rebel commandos who came via Algeria to stage a bloody raid on the southern Tunisian mining town of Gafsa in 1980.



An Israeli soldier pulls a Palestinian girl under arrest in Ramallah as she holds onto the uniform of a second soldier (right). The soldier at right hits an elderly Palestinian woman with his club as she attempts to pull the girl away. The girl was arrested after a stone-throwing demonstration.

Palestinian activists go hiding

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Several Palestinian activists, fearing further arrests under a widening crackdown against the uprising in the occupied territories, are sleeping away from their homes, Palestinian sources say.

At least 100 Palestinians have been seized during the past 72 hours in night swoops by Israeli troops intent on ending the upris-

ing, now in its fourth month. Military authorities in the occupied territories have stepped up measures aimed at preventing widespread protests on two key anniversaries this month.

Israeli Radio has reported that 200 Palestinians held in a Gaza prison camp have been moved to a jail in the Nagab desert to make more room at the Gaza facility.

The uprising's clandestine leadership has declared Monday a day of "fierce confrontation" with Israeli forces to mark the 20th anniversary of an Israeli raid on Palestinians at Al Karameh.

Israeli forces also expect protests on Land Day, the March 30 anniversary of the deaths of six Arabs in a 1976 demonstration against land confiscation.

PLO mission hopes to win time at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), under U.S. orders to shut its U.N. mission Monday, hopes to delay the closure through legal manoeuvres, Arab officials said Sunday.

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who protested that the order violated a signed agreement between the world body and the United States, has been urged by opponents of the closure to raise the matter in the U.S. federal court.

But Clovis Maksoud, U.N. representative of the Arab League, said a likelier course was an appeal by the PLO's lawyers for federal court jurisdiction in the dispute. He told reporters this might win a 20-day suspension of the closure.

An injunction could then be sought to stay further the enforcement of the 1987 U.S. "anti-terrorism" act, under which the Justice Department has been directed to close the mission by March 21.

Ramsey Clark, a former U.S. attorney general, is advising the PLO, Maksoud said.

The General Assembly, due to resume an emergency debate on the question Monday, is expected to adopt a resolution criticising the United States for showing disrespect for the 1947 accord that established U.N. headquarters in New York.

American authorities then undertook to facilitate the entry and functioning of those invited by the United Nations to take part in its work.

The General Assembly invited the PLO to set up a U.N. mission in 1974. It was never granted diplomatic immunity.

U.S. delegate Herbert Okun, announcing that the mission must close, said the order was irrespective of U.S. obligations to the United Nations.

Perez de Cuellar has proposed binding arbitration, but Okun said that would not be useful. The World Court has been asked to rule whether arbitration is mandatory under the headquarters agreement, but a decision could take weeks.

The dispute has worsened the uneasy relations between the United Nations and its host country. The U.S. Congress has withheld more than \$200 million in U.N. funding despite changes in U.N. budgeting designed to meet its demands.

Some U.N. diplomats, eager to make a dramatic reprisal gesture, have suggested holding a General Assembly session in Geneva or Vienna.

Others said this might exacerbate the crisis, predicting that the United States would boycott such a session and the Congress would then be even more reluctant to loosen its purse strings.

Senior U.N. officials said the world body could not afford the heavy expense of leaving New York.

Continued from page one

King meets Habib, Abdul Meguid

(Continued from page 1) Jordan's formal reply to the U.S. peace plan to Habib.

"It's still too early," the official told Reuters.

Habib arrived from Cairo where he discussed the U.S. initiative with Mubarak.

"There are very clear time factors involved and we are pursuing it with all the attention and seriousness that the problem of making peace in this part of the world deserves," Habib told reporters.

The U.S. proposals call for an international conference next month, but Habib indicated no dates had been fixed. "I am not going to predict a particular event happening at particular moments," he said after an hour of talks with Mubarak.

Habib was also due to visit Saudi Arabia and Morocco.

Habib said in Cairo that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who discussed the peace plan in Washington last week, had not rejected it, as his public comments often appear to indicate.

"Shamir did not say no," he said, recalling a remark by Reagan that any leader who turned down the U.S. ideas would have to answer to his own people.

Habib also echoed statements by Reagan and Shultz that the peace proposals would not be "cut up into pieces" and remained unchanged.

"We are pursuing them with vigour and with careful consultations with our friends, and with the understanding that this is an ongoing process," he said.

Shamir has 'peace' idea

In New York, Shamir said he had a peace proposal that would satisfy both Palestinian and Israeli concerns but held out for direct peace talks with the Arabs rather than an international peace conference.

"I'm sure that there is a position that could satisfy the Palestinians and not be contradictory to Israeli convictions," Shamir said in a television interview recorded Saturday and broadcast Sunday.

"Let us go to negotiations," Shamir said when asked what his plan was.

Asked if he had a specific proposal in mind, Shamir said: "I have, I have."

Eban favours int'l talks

In Brussels, former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban Sunday urged an international conference on the future of the occupied territories and said their present status was untenable.

He told an international forum arranged by a Brussels Jewish group: "We all want peace, we all want a degree of mutual recognition and we all regard the status quo as untenable and intoler-

able."

Israel's coalition government is split over the idea of a conference. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres supports it while Shamir is deeply opposed.

"Israelis have no reason whatever to have a demonological or apocalyptic view of such a conference," Eban said.

He said Israeli public opinion was shifting. "Many who were totally complacent two months ago are no longer talking like that. The intolerability of the status quo is becoming part of national consciousness."

Eban said Palestinian representation was the central issue and Israel had to recognise the Palestinian negotiating position had changed. "We really must learn to take 'yes' for an answer."

Eban added: "All formulas put forward until now will have to be re-examined because as they stand they are an obstacle. We are all being strangled by our inhibitions."

Eban paid tribute to Hanna Simora, editor of Al Fajr, who he said had helped change the image of Palestinian national thinking.

Earlier, Simora had told the conference the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) of 1988 was not the PLO of 1964.

Simora told Reuters: "The security of Israel depends on the national aspirations of the Palestinian people. To bring peace forward, representatives of both parties, the Israeli government and the PLO, should talk."

The European Community provided premises for the three-day forum, entitled "Give Peace a Chance."

Meanwhile, a resolution before the American Jewish Congress (AJC) repeating its call for Israel to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza underlines its difference with Shamir.

"The position taken by our organisation obviously is not in accord with that taken by Mr. Shamir this past week," said Andrea Binder, a spokeswoman for the American Jewish Congress, which opened a meeting in Philadelphia Sunday.

"We issued a statement in September which called for territorial compromise and endorsed an international peace conference. The resolution that will be voted on next week will reaffirm (the earlier) resolution," she said prior to the gathering.

Another resolution will endorse the Shultz plan.

A third resolution will "discuss Arab and specifically Palestinian intransigence in coming to the negotiating table," she said.

Shamir's visit is expected to be discussed throughout the four-day convention, which will be attended by about 400 to 500 delegates. The American Jewish Congress has 50,000 members.

OIC conference opens today

(Continued from page 1) none at all."

The PLO delegation to the meeting is headed by Farouq Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's Political Affairs Department.

According to Arab diplomats quoted by Reuters, OIC foreign ministers will unite in condemning Israel for its handling of the uprising in which over 100 Palestinians have died, and will pledge money for the uprising.

They said the OIC would also endorse the idea of an international U.N.-sponsored conference to work out a just and comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Iran-Iraq war, in which the combatants — both OIC members — have rained missiles on each other's capitals for the past three weeks, may once again prove an intractable issue.

Iran, which boycotted last year's OIC summit in Kuwait, has sent a delegation headed by Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al Tashiri, an official at the Islamic Guidance (Information) Ministry.

It was not known whether the OIC would revive a mediation committee which has tried several times to make peace between Tehran and Baghdad.

Conference sources told Reuters the Iranian and Iraqi delegations clashed at a preparatory session Saturday, when Iraq proposed that the OIC discuss reports of emigration by Iranian Jews to Israel via Pakistan.

Arab diplomats said Iran would also resist any move by Saudi Arabia to secure a resolution condemning last July's violence involving Iranian pilgrims in the Holy City of Mecca.

Afghanistan's OIC seat will be empty. Its membership was suspended after Soviet troops inter-

vened in Kabul in 1979. Muslim minorities in Bulgaria and the Philippines will try to use the OIC conference as a platform to press their demands.

Mini-summit planned

Meanwhile, Kuwait announced Sunday that it planned to host a mini-summit of Islamic leaders in April to bolster backing of the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed made the announcement after a weekly cabinet meeting and said Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah would host the meeting in his capacity as OIC chairman.

He said the meeting would be held April 10-11. It would group members of the OIC's permanent bureau — King Hassan II of Morocco, the presidents of Pakistan, Turkey, Senegal, Gabon and the Maldives, and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"The meeting will review the performance of joint Islamic action in light of the resolutions of the 5th Islamic conference and means of overcoming obstacles hindering Islamic cooperation," Rashed said.

The last OIC summit was held in January 1987 in Kuwait.

An official source quoted by the AP said high on the agenda would be Islamic support of the "Palestinian people's endeavours to put an end to occupation of Al Aqsa."

The Islamic leaders also will try to speed up action to bring the Iran-Iraq war to an end, he added.

The sources noted that the summit was likely to be a follow-up to an emergency Arab summit expected to be held in early April, either in Algeria or Tunisia.

Mujahedeen seek recognition

(Continued from page 1) envoy Mikhail Sytenko in Amman Saturday. The King also received OIC Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzada to discuss a resolution welcoming Moscow's pledge to pull its troops out of

Afghanistan.

Sytenko and Pirzada met separately to discuss what resolution might be adopted by the OIC, which has long demanded a Soviet withdrawal, conference sources said.

Arrest campaign

Troops in the occupied territories, condemned worldwide for using beatings and bullets, seized hundreds of Palestinians in three successive night swoops aimed at preventing protests on two key dates, Palestinians said.

Baghdad stays calm amid 'war of cities'

Reuters

BAGHDAD — Minutes after a missile hits, the rooftops of Baghdad fill with black-robed women and men in suits scanning the horizon for signs of smoke.

Birds shriek in frantic circles overhead. Telephone calls criss-cross the city as Baghdadis consult: How loud was it? Do you know where it fell? Is the family all right?

The deadly three-week-old "war of the cities" between Iran and Iraq puts much of this city of four million people on edge with each thud of a landing Iranian missile.

But the tension appears to vanish quickly and Baghdad reverts to a remarkable calm, toughened perhaps by 7½ years of war.

In detectable spring weather, lovers stroll along the banks of the Tigris, muddy and swollen after the heaviest rains in 30 years. Soldiers, identifiable only by their close cropped hair, pour out of downtown cinemas on their weekend home leave.

Young Iraqi men not at home watching their national soccer team snatch the Gulf Arab Cup in Riyadh Friday play their own game in the wide grass fields of Zawra park.

"This is the way we live. There have been a number of rockets thrown at Baghdad but yet life is normal," Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi told Reuters.

"Things never change because we don't care. Birds possibly just for a few minutes fly hectically but life's normal everywhere."

Iran has rocketed Baghdad with some 30 missiles since Feb. 29 while Iraq has slammed around 100 into Tehran and other Iranian cities in an attempt to force Iran to accept a United Nations ceasefire call.

Tehran says more than 300 Iranians been killed and over 1,000 wounded in the cities war.

Iraq does not release casualty figures but Western diplomats there put total casualties at a low 50 dead or wounded. Baghdad residents too say most Iranian missiles land away from the centre, cutting the toll and contributing to the casual air.

"It's annoying to get jolted out of bed at night," said 20-year-old taxi driver Mahmud. "But we're used to it now."

Residents say there have been only isolated cases of people fleeing to escape the danger, unlike the southern city of Basra

Baghdad stays calm amid 'war of cities'

where unrelenting Iranian shelling has emptied many areas.

Impatience with war

Baghdadis in many parts of the city express impatience with the war's duration but exude confidence. "The army is strong, morale is high. All Iraqis together are steadfast," said Fouad, a university student visiting friends in a bustling market near the historic Kazhemiyyah mosque.

Kazhemiyyah is the burial place of two imams of the Shi'ite sect and Iran has declared it safe from attack. Residents there say they sometimes do not even hear the bombardments which almost daily over the last three weeks have underlined to citizens elsewhere in the capital the closeness of war.

The arrival of spring eased the winter-long threat of a big new Iranian offensive against Basra, and in another month scorching heat will all but rule it out until November.

Western diplomats say Iran appears beset by internal issues and has had trouble mobilising enough men. Unprecedented diplomatic support abroad and a clear edge in the air- and missile-war have also boosted Iraqi morale.

"There is a confidence that wasn't there before," a diplomat said. "With its new missiles, Iraq has been able to equalise an advantage the Iranians previously had."

The missile factor

Diplomats and military analysts believe Iraq is firing Soviet Scud-B ground-to-ground missiles, modified with boosters to bring Tehran, 600 kilometres away, within range for the first time. Iran has said that malfunctioning missiles recovered in Tehran showed the warhead reduced to one-fifth of the design payload.

Iran has long been able to fire ordinary Scud-B's into Baghdad from the battlefield less than 160 kilometres to the east. But diplomats say the relatively slow pace of Iran's reprisals suggests it could be nearing the end of its stockpile.

Iran has stepped up shelling of border towns and poured more troops into battle on the northern front.

RESTAURANT CHINA

The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahlyiah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30-Midnight

Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳

MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant

The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman. Chinese Flaming pot is available

Take away available

Open daily 12:00 - 1:30 18:00 - 23:30

Wadi Saqra Road - near Traffic Bridge Amman, Jordan

Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialties

Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.

6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT

TAIWAN TOURISMO

Authentic Chinese Food

Korean Bar-B-Q

Charcoal Flaming Pot

Take-away service

Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akliah Hospital

Tel: 641093

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION CALL

667171/6-670141/4

Ext. 223

EVERY DAY

PEOPLE WHO NEED

CLEANING SERVICES

CALL US!

Electrolux

P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT

packing, shipping, forwarding, storage, clearing, door-to-door service

Agents all over the world

Tel: 864090, 860852

Tel: 22205 RESMCO JO

P.O. Box 928487 AMMAN JORDAN

Gulf Arab petrochemical producers to consider establishing joint fleet

BAHRAIN (R) — Gulf petrochemical producers will hold their first conference Monday to coordinate policies and study proposals to start a joint fleet to avoid high shipping fees, industry officials said.

"Shipping costs reached an unacceptable level and we are seriously studying setting up a company to transport our products," said Mustafa Al Sayed, general manager of the Bahrain-based Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC).

Members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have spent billions of dollars building petrochemical industries and they are planning to expand.

The seven-year-old GCC will hold the three-day meeting in Abu Dhabi to discuss production and marketing policies and proposals to start a joint fleet.

"The feeling is all around... we look at it from a commercial point of view, it is more economical for us to transport our

products," Al Sayed said.

The economic and defence alliance includes Saudi Arabia which alone needs about 140 tankers to carry its 3.5-million-tonne annual production of petrochemicals.

Bahrain, another GCC member, exports 700,000 tonnes a year and needs a tanker a week to ship its products while Kuwait, yet another member of the grouping, manufactures over a million tonnes a year.

The GCC also includes Oman, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Qatar.

Al Sayed said there were different alternatives and the group is still exploring whether to purchase, charter or build their own tankers.

"Prices went up 50 per cent in the past year, why are the fees so high when there is an over supply of ships," he added.

Insurance and tanker fees are high for the Gulf where Iraq and Iran, at war since 1980, attack ships in the waterway.

One shipping expert said it would be more feasible for the GCC to set up a chartering company which could lease the tankers out when they are not in use.

Al Sayed said the petrochemical market was now stable after reaching a low point in December 1986. He anticipated a rise in demand, making it safe for the group to consider starting a fleet.

"It's an upward trend and it will continue to be so till 1992. We have a wide market and if we have our own ships we can put them to good and full use," he added.

The oil-rich GCC states have suffered from the swings in the oil market and see a future in ex-

panding their petrochemical industry.

The UAE has plans to enter the field of petrochemicals while Saudi Arabia is opening up its petrochemical industry to the private sector to further increase production.

GPIC, meanwhile, is involved in a \$20 million expansion plan to increase output by 20 per cent by the end of the year.

The GCC offers a competitive price for its petrochemicals in comparison to other producers and the group is involved in complex talks with the European Community (EC) to reach a free-trade accord between the two economic groups.

Some EC members are against the accord and fear it could lead to a flooding of their markets of cheap GCC petrochemicals harming European producers.

Community officials said last month an agreement could be reached by mid-1989.



Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Sunday meets with the Finnish delegation

Tabbaa, Hamzeh receive Finnish economic group

AMMAN (Petra) — A 20-member Finnish economic delegation conferred here Sunday with Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbaa on economic and tourist cooperation between Finland and Jordan.

The head of the visiting delegation said that Finland will be willing to import Jordanian products and was interested in conducting feasibility studies on joint ventures.

He said that the delegation, which includes representatives of the private sector in Finland, will further discuss these issues with the Jordanian chambers of industry and trade.

The delegation leader also proposed that a joint Jordanian-Finnish committee be set up to discuss means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in economic and trade matters.

Tabbaa briefed the delegation on Jordan's development programmes and the facilities, exemptions and incentives offered to investors in the kingdom.

Tabbaa also said that Jordan would like to export its cement, phosphate and potash as well as fruit and vegetables to Finland.

The minister said that Jordan would welcome cooperation with Finland in various fields, especially in Finnish expertise in the timber industry which Jordan needs for its timber and wood factory in Aqaba.

Tabbaa also discussed with the

delegation the prospect of increasing Finnish tourist group visits to Jordan.

The Finnish delegation also met with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and discussed with him bilateral cooperation in health-related fields.

Hamzeh briefed the visitors on his ministry's health and medical programmes and the primary health care project in the Kingdom.

The delegation members expressed readiness to launch Jordanian-Finnish cooperation in health fields and in providing Jordan with medical equipment.

The delegation members were later taken on a visit to the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) where they met Director General Mohammad Arafah and other senior officials.

The two sides reviewed areas for mutual cooperation in energy and electricity and the prospect of exploiting shale oil found in Jordan for generating electricity.

They also discussed the prospect of manufacturing electrical appliances in Jordan with Finnish expertise and carrying out electrical engineering projects in Africa and the Middle East.

The JEA recently awarded a tender to a Finnish company for providing electrical equipment for transformer stations to be financed through a Finnish government's easy term loan.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — Turnover was low again Sunday as only 172,500 shares changed hands for a volume of JD 276,605 covered by 286 transactions.

The following six companies accounted for about 70 per cent of the volume: The National Steel Industries (JD 41,009 for 14,350 shares over 26 contracts); the Jordan Cement Factories (JD 33,981 for 31,283 shares over 24 contracts); the Arab Aluminium Industries (JD 32,181 for 17,600 shares over 35 contracts); the Arab Bank (JD 31,638 for 280 shares over six contracts); the Cairo Amman Bank (JD 30,000 for 1,000 shares over one contract) and the Intermediate Petrochemical Industries (JD 24,643 for 16,950 shares spread over 29 contracts).

The Universal Chemical Industries and the Aladdin Industries recorded a volume of JD 11,553 and JD 10,421 on shares totalling 6,850 and 7,650 respectively noting that the number of contracts was high at 30 and 20.

Prices were generally stable except for the Arab Bank, the Jordan French Insurance and the Universal Chemical Industries. The high and low price for each was JD 113,000-JD 112,750; JD 5,400-JD 5,300 and JD 1,730-JD 1,640.

Trading at the parallel market amounted to 41,593 shares for a value of JD 19,994.

A total of 1,004 development bonds changed hands for a total of JD 10,881.

NAF gives over JD 2 million in aid to 9,708 needy families

AMMAN (Petra) — National Aid Fund (NAF) Director Khalil Fauri said that during last year assistance totalling JD 2,139,344 was given to 9,708 needy families in Jordan.

He said that the NAF's resources were confined to the Jordanian treasury which offered the fund JD 2,193,950 in the same year.

The NAF has been operating for only 18 months but its services have been reaching needy people around the country through the various centres in all regions, Fauri said.

Some families, he added, receive up to JD 40 a month in financial assistance and NAF also helps needy families to start their own businesses and generate their own income.

Agricultural workshop begins

AMMAN (Petra) — A training workshop for workers employed in the implementation of the Zarqa River Basin development project was opened Saturday by Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary-General Salem Al Lawzi.

The project, being implemented in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme and Arab and foreign funds, is expected to cost JD 22 million, according to Lawzi who

addressed the participants in the week-long workshop.

Lawzi said that the project is one of the biggest projects to be carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and it will affect a total area of 820,000 dunums of land at the lower part of the river basin.

The workshop aims at preparing a working plan for the different technical teams carrying out the basic parts of the project.

Qudah lectures on free zones

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Free Zones Corporation (JFZC) Assistant Director-General Faleh Qudah gave a lecture at the customs central office in Amman outlining the corporation's development and its objectives.

He also spoke about the exemptions from taxes and fees offered by the government to investments in the country and the role of the corporation in national development.

He said that a 1,500 dunum piece of land has been reserved along the sea shores of Aqaba to build the corporation's headquarters on it and to serve for JFZC main operations.

Department of education completes building school in Mafraq region

MAFRAQ (Petra) — The department of education in Mafraq governorate has completed the construction of a preparatory school for girls at Balama town at the cost of JD 247,000. The school houses 22 classrooms, a workshop, a library and a hall for training the girls in home science and for other activities.

The health ministry here has awarded a tender to a local construction company to set up new building for the health department at the cost of JD 97,000. It also awarded another tender to build an annex to the Mafraq hospital for JD 150,000.

APARTMENT FOR RENT IN ABDOUN FURNISHED OR UNFURNISHED

Consists of 6.5x5 salon and dining room, sitting room, 4.5x4 new modern kitchen, two bathrooms, 3 bedrooms. Independent entrance, central heating, electricity, water and garden. Tel: 812570 Monday and Tuesday.

MISSING

Julietta C. Domingo, Philippine nationality, left home of her employer Mr. Hani Shawa on Sunday 28.2.1988 and has not returned. The police are informed and it is illegal to give her work or shelter.

Her employer requests anybody who knows her whereabouts to telephone: 821144, Amman

NICELY BRAND - NEW FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

First floor of 220 sq.m. in a two floors family building located in the best residential area, near The Guest Palace (between the 4th & 5th Circles) No. 147 Aqsa Street - Jabal Amman. Consisting of: Large salon, dining room, 2 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, laundry room with fully automatic W.M., fully equipped spacious kitchen, 3 balconies and car-park. Equipped with colour T.V., video, telephone and central heating. If interested please call: Tel. 812562 (a.m.) & Tel. 671509 (p.m.)

U.S. stands firm against new funding for Inter-American Development Bank

CARACAS (R) — The Reagan administration made clear Sunday that it will oppose new funding for the Inter-American Development Bank until the agency agrees to profound changes in its lending procedures.

A brief statement by Allen Wallis, U.S. undersecretary of state for economic affairs, torpedoed any hope that the two-year-old funding dispute between the United States and the Latin American debtor countries would be resolved quickly.

"We will not change our position this year, next year or the year after," Wallis said as he arrived in Caracas for the bank's annual meeting, which opens formally Monday.

"It is not just the Treasury, the State Department, the White House. It is the entire administration that is absolutely firm in the position that the country is taking," he said.

In private and public state-

ments, however, top U.S. officials have appeared to hold out an olive branch, saying they favoured giving the bank's president-elect, Uruguayan Finance Minister Enrique Iglesias, a chance to discuss divisive issues with the Latin countries and then to arrange new funding talks.

Iglesias, who takes office formally on April 1, is considered a master mediator of long experience.

On his arrival Saturday for the meeting, attended by economic leaders from Latin America, Asia, the United States and Europe, Iglesias said: "I think this meeting in Caracas should pave the way for a new institution that unites us all."

He told Reuters: "We are very aware that this is a difficult moment but we are hopeful because we think all members of the bank want the same thing: A vigorous, active and efficient institution."

The Latin countries had hoped

that agreement for a \$23 billion refunding of the bank could be completed soon, allowing it to take a greater role in regional development.

The countries had agreed that the bank should earmark some funds for economic reform in the region, rather than have it all go on fundamental development such as roads, sewers and dams. But the United States has sought procedures that would give it more say over who receives loans and under what conditions.

The Reagan administration wants to see debtors do more to market-orient their economies, such as reducing subsidies.

Washington is increasingly preoccupied with economic and political issues in Latin America. The debt crisis has resisted easy solutions since it surfaced over five years ago.

To this has been added political upheaval in Panama and a con-

troversial decision by President Reagan to send 3,200 American troops to Honduras because of a reported border crossing by soldiers from Nicaragua.

The meeting of the bank's 44 member countries brings together over 2,000 officials from governments, commercial banks, investment firms and other international financial institutions. The formal session runs from Monday to Wednesday.

At a meeting of officials Saturday, the bank's number two, Michael Curtin, said he was prepared to stand down for James Conrow, an assistant secretary at the U.S. Treasury.

But Conrow, who has overseen the development banks at the Treasury, has been a harsh critic of the bank's activities and the U.S. decision to press for his nomination has angered some Latin countries and further divided the two sides.

Soviets register trade surplus with West

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet trade with the West was in the black in 1987 for the first time in three years, according to official figures published Saturday.

Data in the foreign trade jour-

nal Vneshtorgyaya Torgovlya showed a Soviet trade surplus with the developed industrial world of more than 312 million roubles (\$52.1 million).

There had been a deficit of 2.72 billion roubles (\$454 billion) in 1986.

Total trade turnover with the West in 1987 dropped by about

3.1 per cent compared with 1986, falling to 28.06 billion roubles (\$46.86 billion) from 28.96 billion roubles (\$48.36 billion).

The Soviet Union had been in the red with the West every year since 1984, when it ran a trade surplus of 1.7 billion roubles (\$2.82 billion), according to official figures.

Foreign analysts said the Soviet Union was apparently cutting back Western imports because of reduced revenues from the raw materials it exports, especially oil.

The journal said fuel energy exports to the West had fallen by 1.8 per cent compared with 1986, but gave no breakdown of figures.

Imports from Western countries in 1987 totalled 13.87 billion roubles (\$23.16 billion), a fall of 1.98 billion roubles (\$3.31 billion), or about 12.5 per cent compared with 1986, the figures showed.

Exports to the West totalled 14.18 billion roubles (\$23.68 billion), an increase of 1.08 billion roubles (\$1.80 billion), or about 8.2 per cent.

Hashemi Restaurant
FIRST CLASS
INDIAN CUISIN
AFTER THE HOLIDAY INN
TOWARDS 3rd CIRCLE
TEL. 659519-659520

SUPER DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
Each apartment comprises one bedroom, living and dining areas, fully equipped kitchen, bathroom, central heating, continuous hot water, intercom, a coloured T.V., central antenna for AM and FM stations, air cooler & a telephone.
Location: Behind Holiday Inn & Al Dustour newspaper building.
To view call 655273, 679491

CAR FOR SALE
Toyota Cressida GL, 1986, in excellent condition, white colour, full automatic, electric mirrors, air-conditioned, sun-roof, 5-gears, brand new wheels, comprehensive insurance.
Competitive price: JD 6,000.
For information Pls. call 645819

REQUIRED
Executive secretary of ten years experience at least, preferable with computer background.
Please call telephone 660890 + 660891

TOUCH BEAUTY CENTRE
— Hairdresser Majdi
— Specialist in skin beauty
— Wax
— Make up
With beauty expert NINA.
Shmeisani - GALIA Building.
Tel. 687077

FARES & SERVICES
Welcome to Nile Travel and Tourism Co.
— Now covers all airlines.
— Know our additional services.
— New competitive fares.
1- Airline tickets and flight booking along with delivery to your offices, will be free of charge.
2- Good facilities for hotel reservation, both in Jordan and worldwide.
3- Travel insurance could be arranged.
4- Meeting and assisting with transfers from the airport to the town.
5- Long experience in excursions, sight seeing tours and packages, both in Jordan and worldwide.
6- Car hire both in Jordan and worldwide.
7- We provide a very competitive fares.
8- Monthly credit facilities.
9- Excess baggage facilities.
Try us once! You prefer us always.
Al Nile Travel and Tourism Co.,
Amman, Amman Development Corporation Building, Prince Mohammad Street, Greater Amman Municipality, Tel. 643685, 643795

LA MAISON
Khan Al Khalili Products
Ceramic, frames, arabesque, papyrus paper, various handicrafts.
Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle, near Firas Bookshop
Tel. 641080-652747

SAFWAY INTERNATIONAL
We would like to announce to all our clients that our address has changed as follows:
TEL. NR. 685311
FAX NR 685350
TLX. NR 23125 SAFWAY JO
P.O. Box 906050
AMMAN, JORDAN

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171-6

Cinema Tel: 677420
CONCORD
OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 625153
RAINBOW
ALAIN DELON IN THE FIGHTER
Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 675573
NIJOUM CINEMA «Formerly Opera»
COUNTRY
Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420
PLAZA
FERRIS
BUEHLER'S DAY OFF
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Morocco reserves semifinals berth in Africa Nations Cup

CASABLANCA (R) — Host nation Morocco booked a place in the semifinals of the 16th Africa Nations Cup soccer tournament Saturday after drawing 0-0 with Ivory Coast.

Algeria and Ivory Coast must now draw lots for the second of the two Group A semifinal berths.

The result of the Morocco-Ivory Coast game gave the home side four points while Algeria and Ivory Coast both ended with three points and the same goal difference. Their pot-luck draw was scheduled for a Casablanca hotel at 2100 GMT Saturday.

Morocco finished at the top of their group, delighting the 80,000 crowd in the Mohamed V Stadium with a solid all-around performance.

The defensive wall of Abdelmajid Lamris and Mahmoud Tijani never allowed the Ivorians as much as the visitors sought revenge for a defeat here last November in the Olympic qualifying tournament.

Tijani fought a tough duel with Ivory Coast attacking star Youssouf Fofana on the left.

He kept the so-called "Black Diamond" on a short leash, matching him for speed and beating him for aggression.

Fofana, caught in a tug-of-war between his club Monaco and the national team, broke loose once or twice and drew gasps of admiration with his dribbling skills.

With 15 minutes to go he showed remarkable balance and control in carrying the ball 20 metres

through the heart of the Moroccan defence before unleashing a strong shot.

In the Moroccan attack, Hachem El Gharef came close twice in the second half.

He shaved the crossbar shortly after the break when he latched onto a cross from Lamris.

The midfield battle was a tale of two players.

For Morocco, it was St. Etienne star Mustapha El Haddaoui who tormented the Ivorian defence with his surging runs and renowned shooting ability.

After half an hour in the first half, he tested Ivorian goalkeeper Alain Gouamene with a shot from the edge of the box after winning the ball deep in midfield.

Ivory Coast's Oumar Ben Salah, a professional with French club Sete, kept traffic flowing in the other direction.

Ben Salah did not play in Ivory Coast's first two games.

Earlier, Zaire were eliminated from the finals after being beaten 1-0 by Algeria, the Leopards' first defeat of the tournament.

Abdelkader Ferhaoui hit the winner in the 35th minute with a low drive from eight metres out.

As winners of Group A, Morocco now stay in Casablanca for the semifinal match. Ivory Coast or Algeria go to Rabat where they will meet Cameroon, Egypt or Nigeria. The Group B deciding matches will be played Sunday.

Frost to meet fellow-Dane in All-England Badminton final

LONDON (R) — Denmark's Morten Frost stood one match away from his fifth All-England Badminton title at Wembley Saturday after a battling semifinal victory against Indonesian Eddy Kurniawan.

The number one seed's polished defensive skills carried him to a 15-5, 18-13 victory and into Sunday's final where he will meet countryman Ib Frederiksen, the first unseeded men's singles finalist since Indonesian Christian Hadinata 15 years ago.

Frederiksen beat fellow-Dane and Wembley roommate, joint fifth seed Jens Peter Nierhoff, 15-10, 15-11 to earn the dubious reward of a clash with Frost, whom he has beaten just once in 12 meetings.

In the women's singles, South Korean teenage sensation Lee Young-Suk followed up Friday's defeat of world champion Han Aiping of China, by routing title holder Kirsten Larsen of Denmark 11-3, 11-3 in 25 minutes.

That was also the time required by Gu Jianming of China, seeded joint fifth, to upset third-seeded

compatriot Zheng Yuli 11-5, 11-4 in the other semi-final.

Frost, who beat Kurniawan in last year's semifinals, won the first game easily but had to battle in the second after trailing 7-2.

The Dane recovered, led 12-9 after some astonishing retrievals, fell behind 13-12, then sprinted to victory with six successive points.

"I'm very proud of my record here, seven straight finals and 10 straight semifinals," said Frost, who would not admit to overconfidence against Frederiksen despite his record against compatriots, against whom he has lost four times in 75 meetings.

But his confidence showed inadvertently when he let slip: "The difficult part of the tournament is over now."

Frederiksen, four years the younger at 25, has come through the section vacated by England's joint third seed Steve Baddeley, who withdrew with flu.

Napoli overwhelms Como to retain League lead

ROME (R) — Brazilian striker Careca scored twice Sunday as Italian champions Napoli swept to a stylish 3-0 League win at home to struggling Como, maintaining a four-point lead over closest rivals AC Milan who also won easily.

Milan beat Lowly Pescara 2-0, with Dutch European footballer-of-the-year Ruud Gullit scoring a classic goal in the second half, while Roma and Sampdoria also won at home to leave the top four league standings unchanged.

Napoli head the league with 38 points, followed by Milan on 34 and Roma, who beat Empoli 1-0 and who are the only other team left in contention for the title, next with 33 points.

Napoli, held to a goalless draw by bottom-of-the-league Empoli last Sunday and with two consecutive home defeats behind

them, were determined to shrug off their recent poor form.

Careca scored the first goal after 10 minutes, heading home at close range off a free kick punched powerfully into a crowded area by Francesco Romano. Fernando de Napoli scored the second with a virtuoso effort on the stroke of halftime.

Argentine World Cup captain Diego Maradona, playing with superb confidence, set up the third goal with a neat back heel pass to defender Salvatore Bagni who in turn slipped the ball to Careca who hammered home in the 48th minute.

Maradona leads the overall scoring standings with 12 goals, while Careca's double puts him close behind on 11.

Milan got off to a devastating start, scoring in the second minute through Daniele Massaro off a free kick from Gullit, who scored the second in the 48th minute, rising high in the area and then lobbing a calmly controlled ball into the net.

Roma, with Polish striker Zbigniew Boniek on the bench for the first half, laboured until the 50th minute before scoring through Giuseppe Giannini.

Juventus, in the doldrums after being beaten by Avellino Sunday, beat Pisa 2-1 to stave off further criticism and revive their hopes of staying in European competition next season.

Gilmour becomes 1st Australian to win Congressional Cup

LONG BEACH, California (R) — Australian Peter Gilmour won the Congressional Cup Yachting Regatta Saturday but quickly admitted that his mates would not be satisfied until they won the America's Cup again.

Gilmour, the first Australian to win the cup, lost his first race Saturday to American John Kolius but won the last of the nine-race series to accumulate enough points to win with a 7-2 record.

Gilmour and American John Bertrand, who placed second overall, finished with identical records for the series, which began last Wednesday. But since Gilmour had beaten Bertrand earlier, the Australian was declared the winner.

American Bill Lynn was third, in the 24th annual event, which this year used the Catalina 38 sloops.

"We tried to rectify losing the (America's) Cup but we won't feel

vindicated until we get the cup back," said Gilmour, 28, after his victory.

Gilmour lost the next-to-last race Saturday to American John Kolius but clinched the cup after beating American Bill Lynn in the final race.

In the final, Gilmour out-manoeuvred Lynn after tacking away his opponent's 10-knot winds.

"I figured the race was won after we pulled ahead 10 boat lengths," he said.

For the Congressional Cup, skipper Gilmour switched roles with Ian Murray who had been at the helm aboard Kookaburra III in the America's Cup finals against America's Stars Stripes.

At one point in the eighth race Saturday Murray was frantically waving away spectator boats, fearful that their wash would affect the contest.

"The key factor in our win is we sail with the same team — we call ourselves, 'Kooka-Kids,' — that's our strength," Gilmour told reporters.

Defending champion Eddie Owen of Britain finished in fifth place at 5-4.

Kasunori Komatsu, Japan's first entrant in the Congressional Cup, who finished the Regatta at 0-9, will receive the last-place prize, the book "how to sail your boat."

West German qualifier upsets Mandlikova

KEY BISCAVNE, Florida (R) — West German qualifier Sabine Auer saved five match points and upset an enraged Hana Mandlikova of Australia Saturday in the \$2.1 million International Players Tennis tournament.

Mandlikova, seeded fourth, ended the match by hitting a ball at the lineswoman after receiving a penalty point for throwing her racket at the beginning of the final game.

Mandlikova, who threw an obscenity-filled tantrum at the U.S. Open last September, said later she was so angry with the lineswoman that she did not regret her actions.

"I'm not sorry. It's unbelievable that she missed that call. It

was a crucial point, and I couldn't get it out of my mind," said the 26-year-old Mandlikova, who will automatically be fined at least \$250.

Mandlikova, seventh in the world, struggled to win the first set and then looked in control when she went ahead 5-2 in the second set. But she double faulted on the first of five match points in the 10th game and went on to lose her serve. Auer closed the gap to 5-3, lost her serve to fall behind 5-6, then saved four match points and broke Mandlikova's serve in the 12th game, forcing a tiebreaker which she easily won 7-3.

Auer went up a break at 4-2 in the third set but became nervous

and lost her serve in the 10th game.

Mandlikova erupted when the lineswoman's call went against her on the first point of the 11th game. She was penalised a point for throwing her racket after losing her serve in that game.

Auer began serving the 12th game with a 15-0 lead because of the penalty. She closed out the match with two volley winners, set up by carefully placed two-handed backhands.

Auer won 4-6, 7-6, 7-5.

Rain forced postponement of 30 matches, including 10 singles, and created windy playing conditions for the remaining contests.

Connors beats Sanchez

Earlier, Jimmy Connors defe-

ated Spain's Javier Sanchez 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 in a lacklustre affair, and nine-seeded American Barbara Potter easily beat unseeded Catherine Suire of France.

Auer, 21, rallied with Mandlikova from the baseline and attacked with poise on the key points throughout the two-hour and four-minute match.

Auer, ranked 284th in the world, said it was the biggest win of her career.

"I feel wonderful," she said Thursday. "I did not think I had a chance to win before I started because she is ranked so high. I think I believed I had a chance when I won the second set."

Boxing champ takes Tokyo by storm

TOKYO (R) — Undisputed world heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson, enjoying an unprecedented wave of popularity in Tokyo, is expected to crown his stay by defeating challenger Tony Tubbs Monday.

"Mike is more popular in Japan than he is in the United States," co-manager William Cayton said at a press conference.

Tyson's sparring has demonstrated brutal punching power. But outside the ring he is mild-mannered, soft-spoken, and visits and makes donations to children's homes and hospitals. He talks against crime and for education.

The combination has made him a winner with Japan's press and public, who have followed his every move since he arrived here Feb. 17.

His popularity has been reflected in a contract for a beer commercial on Japanese television, worth over \$600,000.

That is more than 30-year-old fellow American Tubbs will receive for the fight. His cut is \$500,000, with a controversial \$50,000 bonus if he is in top



Mike Tyson



Tony Tubbs

condition.

Former middleweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard, here to do a television commentary, told reporters Saturday that while former World Boxing Association (WBA) champion Tubbs had talent "he allows himself to get out of shape between fights."

Tubbs has had frequent weight problems. In a public sparring session here earlier in the week he still appeared comfortably cushioned, dazzling neither in speed nor footwork.

But on Thursday he said his

weight was 106 kilograms, only one kilo over the maximum he expected by fight time.

"I know I'm the best fighter," he said.

Tyson did not seem unduly concerned. Saying he was already in "great shape," he added that "one or two more days of training and I'll be marvellous."

Tyson, still only 21, won the World Boxing Council (WBC) title at the age of 20, then took the WBA and International Boxing Federation (IBF) crowns.

In January, he knocked out

former champion Larry Holmes in the fourth round in Atlantic City, the first of six defences promised this year as part of a \$26.5 million package.

He looked in superb fighting trim at 99 kilograms here this week.

Tubbs has had 23 wins in 24 professional fights. Despite being nearly a decade younger, Tyson has had 33 professional bouts and won them all.

"Tyson's best attributes are speed and power," said Leonard, adding that Tyson's good punches tended to be short ones and a strategy of "hit and run" might be the best approach against him.

But Tubbs is expected to opt for a mauling fight, pulling Tyson into clinches against the ropes. That could keep the challenger from tiring and limit Tyson's ability to exploit his footwork and punching.

But Tyson has prepared for such tactics, and it is a measure of his and the boxing world's confidence that he has already tentatively set defences against American Michael Spinks in June and Britain's Frank Bruno in September.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

THE CASE OF THE PERFECT PRINCE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 9 4 2
♥ A Q 7 5
♦ K Q 6
♣ K 10 4

EAST
♠ Q 8 5
♥ 7 6 3
♦ J 10 9 7 3
♣ A 4

SOUTH
♠ A K 6
♥ K 4
♦ 8 5 3
♣ Q J 5 2

The bidding:
South: 1♣, 2♦, 3NT, 4NT, 5NT, 6NT, 7NT, 8NT, 9NT, 10NT, 11NT, 12NT, 13NT, 14NT, 15NT, 16NT, 17NT, 18NT, 19NT, 20NT, 21NT, 22NT, 23NT, 24NT, 25NT, 26NT, 27NT, 28NT, 29NT, 30NT, 31NT, 32NT, 33NT, 34NT, 35NT, 36NT, 37NT, 38NT, 39NT, 40NT, 41NT, 42NT, 43NT, 44NT, 45NT, 46NT, 47NT, 48NT, 49NT, 50NT, 51NT, 52NT, 53NT, 54NT, 55NT, 56NT, 57NT, 58NT, 59NT, 60NT, 61NT, 62NT, 63NT, 64NT, 65NT, 66NT, 67NT, 68NT, 69NT, 70NT, 71NT, 72NT, 73NT, 74NT, 75NT, 76NT, 77NT, 78NT, 79NT, 80NT, 81NT, 82NT, 83NT, 84NT, 85NT, 86NT, 87NT, 88NT, 89NT, 90NT, 91NT, 92NT, 93NT, 94NT, 95NT, 96NT, 97NT, 98NT, 99NT, 100NT.

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

The club tournament, offering a considerable cash prize, had just been won by a visiting dignitary with ties to the royal family of his homeland. The key hand is shown above. Every play in three is trump, and the jack of diamonds was the universal lead. At every table save one, the contract went down. The exception was the winner, who made 10 tricks. The Card Committee was called because sitting East was the Third Secretary of the visitor's mission, and there were rumors he had deliberately blown

the defense.

The Committee was faced with a dilemma. To call the winner or the defender for an explanation was to risk an international incident. To ignore it would fuel the rumors. It was a case for Sike O'Fam, the bridge detective.

It took the Great One only a few minutes to resolve the matter.

"Your tournament was won by the 'best player in the event,'" he stated. "At the other tables declarer played one of dummy's honors to the first trick. East took the ace and returned the suit, and the defenders garnered four diamond tricks and the ace of clubs."

"The Prince must have taken a much better line. He must have played low from the table at trick one. Now when East won the second diamond, if he had a diamond to continue the suit was going to break. Since he started with only a doubleton, declarer had time to force out the ace of clubs while he still had a diamond stopper on the board. His line of play would lose only if West started with at least five diamonds headed by the A-J-10 and the ace of clubs a most unlikely contingency in view of the fact that he did not overcall one diamond when he had the chance."

"By the way, that will be \$1,000. My standard fee, y'know!"

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A sudden change in your current situation will allow you much more room for financial growth, and will also reveal some valuable business opportunities. Be sure to maintain an optimistic attitude.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): It may be wise to reconsider a decision you have come to, as there may be some small, but potentially harmful results connected with it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Don't allow a secret worry to keep you from taking advantage of a great opportunity. A new acquaintance can give you good advice.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Running off for some fun with friends could cause you to renege on a promise you have made, so avoid doing this at all costs.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21): Don't attempt to convince a superior to become involved in a new project if this person is hesitant, or trouble will result.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21): Avoid rushing through your daily routines, or you could make a costly mistake. Don't take any advice without thinking it over first.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21): Postpone making any sudden

changes in a business arrangement for now, and concentrate on getting your budget in better order.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 22): Listen to the advice of a close family friend, but ignore the suggestions of a self-serving partner. This is a good time to entertain at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): If you need some advice on how to improve your efficiency, listen only to a successful business person. Be careful when discussing new ideas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Before indulging in an amorous affair, be sure to consider the advice of a co-worker.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Stop being a spectator and get involved as a participant in life. Apply yourself to whatever interests you, and get good results today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Invite some friends into your home who can help you with financial affairs or family matters. Show that you are grateful for the advice.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Before you get into some new financial or business affairs, take the time to gather the necessary information from an expert.

The Daily Commuter Puzzle

ACROSS

- Room
- Northern European
- City
- Integrity
- Gen. Bradley
- Uniform
- Gr. letter
- Romantic tale
- Sally or Ayn
- Scorn
- Sanity
- Within earshot
- Like a scotch
- Landers
- Before
- Exasperates
- Stage
- Whale
- projection
- Except that
- Boss and
- Angry
- Strong wind
- Small
- Divide in two
- Attempted
- Comitative of neither
- Fill with
- Picture takers
- Spring
- Tenured
- Enthusiast cry
- Selling place
- Adored one
- Bag
- Abstract being
- Drummer
- Krupa
- Feel
- Look askance
- TV horse
- Ger. city

DOWN

- Like tame
- Apple or quince
- Old old
- In a
- convincing way
- Blackboard
- Tennis shot
- To
- (unambiguously)
- Columbus
- port
- Royal lady
- Untroubled
- Gerard
- Taut
- Completed
- Mal - (ear drink)
- Withered
- Cause
- dislike
- Stem
- Tip-top
- Long river
- Use a razor
- Contraction
- Seth's brother
- Guinevere
- Perennial
- Example
- Wrestles
- Jewish feast
- Ready to eat
- Stem
- Facility
- Elykum
- Telegraph man
- Was first

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I tried to dress for success, but the gray tweed underpants were too itchy."

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NULCE

POZAT

HANPOR

ACLOSE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

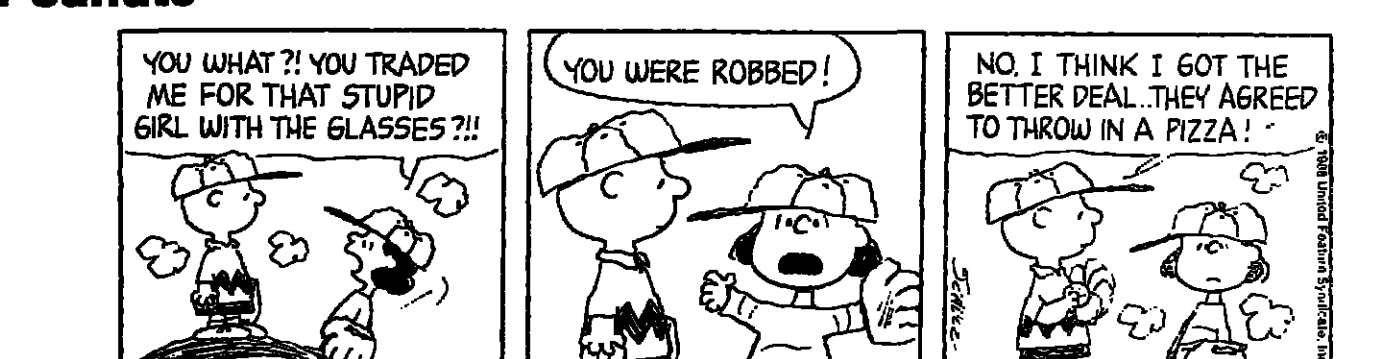
Print answer here: HIS

(Answers tomorrow)

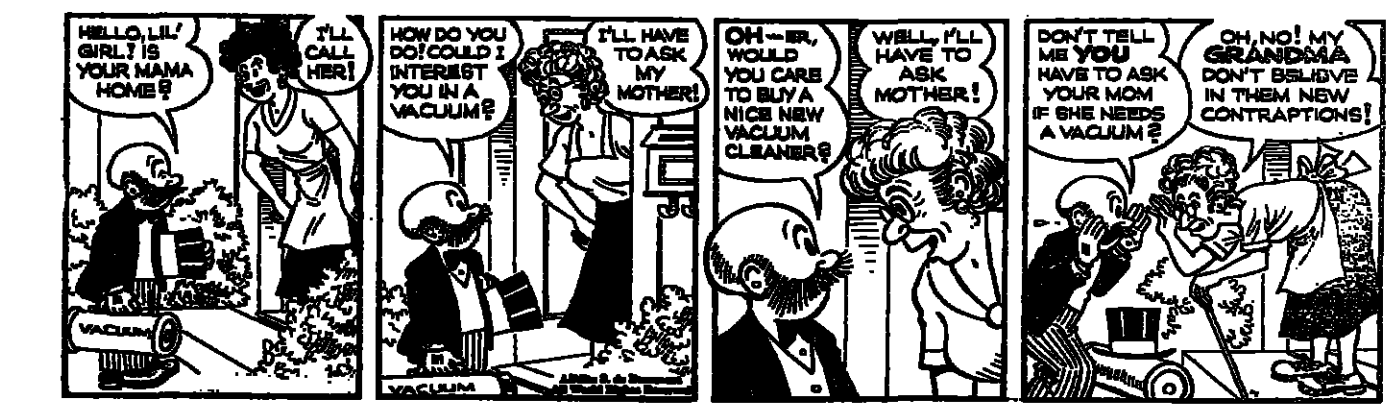
Yesterday's Jumbles: TASTY PARKA OBLIGE DOUBLE

Answer: Why the shopkeeper said farewell to that bargain merchandise — IT WAS A "GOOD BUY"

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Ortega calls Honduras 'tool' of U.S.

Honduran jets bomb Nicaraguan positions again

TEGUCIGALPA (Agencies) — Two Honduran warplanes bombed Nicaraguan positions Saturday afternoon in a rugged border area where Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo was reinforcing troops to oust the Sandinista soldiers.

The Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said the raid was on Nicaraguan territory and caused no damage. Azcona, in a telephone interview with the Associated Press, would neither confirm nor deny the attack, but the Honduran military said it occurred on the Honduran side of the ill-defined border.

In Managua, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega dubbed Honduras a "tool" of U.S. policy after it made its second air raid in three days on Sandinista positions he said were inside the northern Nicaraguan border.

"Honduras is lending itself in an escalation of war as a tool of North American policy," Ortega told reporters after a meeting with opposition political parties.

Honduras says the Sandinistas crossed the frontier in the Bocay region last week in pursuit of U.S.-backed contra rebels. Thousands of U.S. troops have been sent to Honduras as a show of force, but officials say they will not be sent to combat areas.

Azcona threatened the Sandinistas Friday with air raids unless they pulled out of Honduras. Nicaragua has denied its troops crossed the border, but a Sandinista military official has indicated Nicaraguan troops entered Honduras.

The Honduran statement, issued by military intelligence late Saturday, said the raid was ordered by the Military High Command "with the objective of forcing the immediate withdrawal of the Nicaraguan troops from our soil."

The statement said two U.S.-made F-5 fighter jets carried out the raid but it gave no further details of the attack.

The Nicaraguan Defence Ministry statement issued in Managua said the raid was in the same area where Honduran jets dropped several bombs Thursday. Honduras has said that raid also was on its side of the border.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto sent a protest note to Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez, saying his government "energetically and formally protests" the attack, which it called "aggression against Nicaraguan territory."

The Nicaraguan Defence Ministry statement said two American-made F-5 jets staged a 10-minute attack Saturday afternoon in the Bocay area about 104 kilometres northeast of Managua, dropping four bombs against Sandinista army positions but causing no damage.

The ministry also said two F-5 warplanes flew over Sandinista positions Saturday morning in the frontier sectors of Mukuwas, San



Jose Azcona Hoyo

Andres De Bocay, Waniwas and Wayawas, but dropped no bombs.

There was no immediate comment by Honduras on the reported overflight.

Both incursions were repelled by Sandinista anti-aircraft fire, the ministry said.

More U.S. help

Azcona had announced he was sending more troops to the Bocay region and also said he would not hesitate to seek more U.S. help.

A few hours after Azcona made the statements and before

Nicaragua reported its territory was being bombed, the Honduran Armed Forces said the Nicaraguans were pulling back.

Azcona had said before the armed forces announced the Nicaraguans were withdrawing that the situation in the mountainous Bocay region deteriorated when Sandinista troops reentered Honduras after having retreated to the Nicaraguan side.

He estimated the Nicaraguan strength in Honduras at about 2,000 by Saturday morning.



Daniel Ortega

The president told the Associated Press he was reinforcing the 2,000 Honduran troops at the border with several more battalions.

A Honduran military intelligence officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Honduran troops surrounded the Sandinistas and were to shoot or capture any Nicaraguan soldiers found on the wrong side of the border.

About 3,200 U.S. troops have been sent to Honduras at the request of the Honduran government since Thursday.

Karabakh leaders renew call for union

MOSCOW (AP) — Communist leaders in a disputed region of the Caucasus Mountains have retired the No. 2 party official and called again for union with Armenia.

The decisions of the party committee in the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region, part of Soviet Azerbaijan since 1923, were reported in the area's newspaper, a copy of which was obtained Saturday in Moscow.

The state-run press had earlier called efforts to unite the region with Armenia "extremist."

The actions showed that despite complaints from national

officials about their handling of the dispute, leaders of the region continued to call for joining the territorial enclave inside Azerbaijan to Armenia, a neighbouring Soviet republic.

Armenian nationalist Paruyr Ayrikyan told a news conference Saturday in Moscow that his countrypeople are divided about whether to proceed with a plan to demonstrate March 26 to underscore demands that Nagorno-Karabakh, whose population is more than three-quarters Armenian, be made part of Armenia.

Noriega rejects U.S. plan to solve crisis

PANAMA CITY (R) — Panamanian Military Strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, facing spreading popular calls for his removal, has rejected a U.S. plan to solve Panama's political crisis, according to an Armed Forces communiqué.

The statement from the Panama Defence Forces Saturday said Noriega met Friday with two U.S. State Department officials to discuss the proposal, which he dismissed as "unacceptable and anti-Panamanian."

However, Noriega left open the door to further talks with the U.S. officials which he said must "resolve national problems without conditions and take the interests of all Panamanians into account."

Reagan administration officials identified the two negotiators as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State William Walker and Michael Kozak, a department legal adviser.

The New York Times reported Sunday that Noriega had indicated to the U.S. officials that he would only step down if he could stay in Panama and chose his own successor as military leader, which the U.S. envoys said was unacceptable.

Noriega also demanded that Manuel Solis Palma, who was installed as Panamanian president by the legislature last month, be permitted to stay on for six months, when he proposed that presidential elections be held, the Times said.

Noriega was defiant. He hasn't come to grips with reality. He still thinks there is some way for him to stay," it quoted a State Department official as saying.

Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Elliot Abrams told the newspaper Noriega's response was "a disappointment... The only way this

crisis is going to end is when Noriega leaves. The question is whether he realises the seriousness of his situation in Panama."

Noriega, who commands the 16,000-strong defence forces, put down a coup attempt Wednesday by senior officers inside the military command headquarters in Panama City.

The Armed Forces afterwards announced a purge of the military high command, arresting five officers accused of instigating the aborted coup and forcibly retiring five more.

The coup attempt sparked a day of violent rioting by government workers and others clamouring for Noriega's removal.

The government responded by putting army troops on street patrol. On Friday, it declared a state of emergency with a decree which could suspend a wide range of civil rights.

With the removal of seditious army officers, and troops in the streets to quell further public disturbances, Noriega appeared ready to ignore calls for his departure.

"Noriega is a pragmatist"

"Above all, Noriega is a pragmatist. He may see himself as being forced out, but I don't think he is quite ready to leave," one political observer said.

While Noriega appears to be firmly in control, he faces the prospect of more unrest with the opposition National Civic Crusade's call for a general strike beginning Monday.

Previous strike calls by the Crusade, a largely middle-class coalition of political parties and other organisations, have been unsuccessful at ousting Noriega.

However, the protests last week in Panama City were spearheaded by public employees angered with the government because they were unable to cash their pay cheques.

S. Korea opposition merger talks collapse

SEOUL (AP) — Last-minute efforts to unite the divided political opposition before next month's national assembly elections collapsed Sunday with rival parties trading harsh accusations.

Officials of the largest opposition group, the Renovation Democratic Party (RDP) controlled by Kim Young-Sam, called off the merger talks, citing violent demonstrations Saturday night by supporters of its opposition rival, the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD).

"Talks on integrating the opposition are no longer possible and meaningless because of violent acts deliberately committed by PPD members and their supporters," the RDP said in a statement.

Kim Dae-Jung's PPD rejected the accusations as "illogical."

Political sources said the two rival opposition parties were expected to officially call off the unification talks later Sunday, and no more talks are expected

before the elections. The dispute developed after violent protests by 250 PPD members and supporters who occupied the main lobby of a Seoul hotel where the merger talks were to have resumed Saturday night.

The protesters kicked and punched RDP negotiators, calling them "traitors" and "swindlers." A television cameraman was beaten and taken to a nearby hospital.

The RDP negotiators called off the talks but were barred from leaving the hotel until after midnight Friday. Another round of talks was called at a different hotel Sunday morning but RDP officials refused to attend.

The current merger talks were begun after Kim Dae-Jung resigned his post as chairman of the PPD Thursday, satisfying a key condition set by the RDP for uniting the opposition before the general elections.

28 reported killed in Burma riots

BANGKOK (R) — Up to 28 people have been killed in Rangoon this week in the worst riots in Burma since 1974, according to persistent reports reaching Bangkok.

The unconfirmed reports said troops armed with guns and batons stormed into the city Thursday to disperse thousands of protesting students at several campuses.

Rampaging residents and students smashed and set fire to government buildings but did not touch private property, travellers returning to Bangkok said Saturday.

Hundreds of demonstrators

were jailed and about 50 injured in unrest triggered by the shooting to death of a student in clashes with local youths last weekend, diplomats here said.

Witnesses said government trucks roamed the streets to announce a curfew and urge people to go home Friday night.

Sources Sunday said the situation in the city was still tense.

The unrest began with a brawl between students and local youths at the Rangoon Institute of Technology on March 12 but by Wednesday had turned into a widespread riot of students and residents against the government.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Soviet missile withdrawal completed

BERLIN (AP) — The removal of Soviet missiles stationed in East Germany was completed Saturday under the terms of the U.S.-Soviet treaty to eliminate intermediate-range nuclear missiles, the state-run news agency ADN reported. "The last train carrying Soviet missile troops and other equipment for operative tactical missiles of the type OTR-22 (SS-12) left Saturday from Neubrandenburg," ADN said. Neubrandenburg is north of Berlin.

Dukakis wins Kansas caucuses

TOPEKA, Kansas (R) — Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis won the Kansas Democratic caucuses Saturday, defeating civil rights leader Jesse Jackson. With all 117 districts reporting, Dukakis had 283 delegates and Jackson 205. Tennessee Senator Albert Gore had 125 and Missouri Senator Richard Gephardt trailed with 12. A total of 768 delegates were chosen to attend district conventions on April 23, at which 26 delegates and eight alternates will be selected to

attend the Democratic Party nominating convention in Atlanta in July. In the primaries and caucuses so far, Dukakis has the edge with an estimated 828 delegates. He is followed by Jackson with 720, Gore with 490, Illinois Senator Paul Simon with 180, and Gephardt with 167.

Suburban Athens bar bombed

ATHENS (R) — Four American military personnel injured in a bomb blast in an Athens bar were released after treatment at a U.S. military base hospital, police said Sunday. The bomb Saturday night injured 14 people and totally destroyed the bar Oscar, popular at weekends with off-duty American servicemen from a nearby U.S. military base. No one has claimed responsibility. Police said the 14 victims of the blast in the suburb of Glyfyda included an 18-year-old British waitress. She and four Greeks remained in hospital, but doctors said they were all out of danger. Another 24-year-old Briton was treated for light injuries. "It was a miracle that we had no dead. The explosion was very strong and threw me away several metres from where I stood. It was total madness," said Theodore Arapakis, a customer.

Prostitute with AIDS dismissed

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — A judge has dismissed attempted manslaughter charges against a prostitute who continued soliciting sex after she contracted the AIDS virus, a case believed to be the first of its kind in the nation. Circuit Judge Michael Cymmanick ruled Friday that prosecutors failed to prove that Elizabeth Kay Sherouse, 24, actually intended to kill any of her customers. "Thank you, Jesus," Sherouse said after the judge's decision. Although the judge said she might have been negligent in continuing to solicit sex, he said there was no evidence indicating she had an intent to kill. Prosecutors claimed that Sherouse, who has been convicted nine times on prostitution-related charges, tried to kill two men last summer by agreeing to have sex with them after she had been told she carried the deadly Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome virus.

Women burn themselves to death

MOSCOW (R) — Two hundred and seventy women committed suicide by burning themselves to death last year in the Soviet Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan, a Soviet newspaper said in a report suggesting Islam could be to blame. Komsomolskaya Pravda said in a report from Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan, Sunday that Islam could be to blame after what it called centuries of trampling on women's honour and dignity. "In Uzbekistan alone last year, 270 women committed self-immolation," it added. "Is the iron grip of Islam, so strong today in everyday and family life, forcing those young women, driven to despair by humiliation and insults, to pour kerosene over themselves?" it asked.

Soviet dissident free

LONDON (AP) — Soviet dissident Herman Obukhov flew to London Saturday where he was greeted at Heathrow Airport by British students who campaigned on his behalf. Students from Lancing College near the southern England seaside resort of Brighton bombarded Soviet authorities with more than 2,000 letters, telexes and postcards on behalf of the 38-year-old medical engineer from Leningrad. The students, members of Amnesty International, the worldwide human rights group, also wrote letters of support to Obukhov and his family. Obukhov was sentenced in 1981 to four years hard labour in a Siberian prison camp, followed by two years of internal exile in eastern Siberia.

Martin Luther King's old neighbourhood: A tragic example of worsening black poverty

By Sharon Cohen
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Bonnet Hampton knows what it's like to huddle in bed with a baseball bat at hand, wondering how to protect her children from rats scurrying across the rotting wooden floor of her tenement flat.

She knows how to sidestep young men strung out on drugs huddled in dingy hallways, and she's no longer shocked by dead bodies — even at her doorstep. "You don't get used to it," she said, "but it's not a nightmare... You don't lose any rest over that."

Hampton lives in the North Lawndale section of Chicago, a one-time industrial city in the nation's Midwest with a large black population. A generation ago, American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. lived in the neighbourhood in a four-room flat.

King went north to wage war on poverty and inequality. Twenty years after his assassination, slums and disparity remain. But so do dreams of a better life.

A bleak fact of life

fulfilled," said Cleodia Dawkins O'Quinn, who welcomed King to her home. "He would know we have stepped backward."

Twenty years ago, a major report on inner-city problems, highlighted by the riots of the mid-1960s, warned the United States was moving toward two societies, "one black, one white — separate and unequal."

Life for inner-city blacks has worsened, scholars said in a follow-up study this year, partly because of industrial decline. Over 35 years, cities which based their income on heavy industry have lost almost half their manufacturing force, according to a report by the University of Chicago's William Julius Wilson and Loic Wacquant.

Chicago, the report said, lost half its manufacturing blue-collar workers from 1967-82. And that's taken its toll on North Lawndale. According to federal, city and state records:

— Four of 10 people lived in poverty in 1980, an increase of a third over a decade earlier.

— One in five people was out of work in 1980. Unemployment,

high as 30 per cent.

— More than a third of the housing is uninhabitable or so deteriorated it's beyond rehabilitation.

— Eight of 10 children are born out of wedlock. The 1986 infant mortality rate, 27.2 per 1,000 live births, was more than 2.5 times the U.S. average.

Much of North Lawndale has simply vanished. Since 1960, more than half the residents, thousands of jobs and most industries have fled. Gangs are more vicious, drugs more common.

North Lawndale has black after block of weed-filled lots, gutted buildings and men in their prime who while away their days loitering on street corners, or huddled around fires in garbage cans.

Once a largely Jewish community with gray stone houses, stores, factories and banks, North Lawndale turned from white to mostly black in the 1950s. Absentee landlords and political neglect had contributed to its decline by 1966 when King moved into a \$90-a-month, third-floor flat, with inadequate heat and halls reeking of urine.

"Close to the poor"

"You can't really get close to the poor without living and being here with them," he said. King lived in the building, since torn down, on and off for several months that year.

He tried to fight slumlords, build tenant unions, end discrimination. He led open-house marches in all-white neighbourhoods and tried to be peacemaker when riots flared in the summer of 1966.

King, folks say, brought hope to North Lawndale. His assassination brought destruction. Riots that tore apart U.S. cities after King's death in 1968 unleashed a storm of rage in the neighbourhood as well.

"The riots killed or... almost mortally wounded the hope of the community," said Primitus Mootry, executive vice president of the local Better Boys Foundation.

"There was no Marshall Plan for this war-torn community. It was as if someone decided to let them sit there in the mess that they made and let them stew," he said. "The consequences have been devastating. The community has been damned from the

outside."

Today, North Lawndale has 61,000 residents, less than half the population of almost 125,000 in 1965. Much of the middle-class has fled.

Tens of thousands of jobs also disappeared. Seventy-five per cent of businesses were lost from 1960 to 1970.

The main shopping area remains a burned-out shell. A proposal by a national organisation of planners, builders, bankers and others to build a \$9.5-million shopping centre has been postponed.

The neighbourhood has some food and liquor stores, but to buy anything else, "you have to go an area you're not wanted to spend your money," said Isabelle Burrell. "It's insulting."

Some businesses have stayed afloat. The Community Bank of Lawndale, which opened in 1977 with \$2 million in assets, now has \$25 million.

But Jim Hadley, senior vice president, said investors still question the neighbourhood's viability, despite its prime location and good transportation.

A main reason is housing shortages. Only 727 units have been built since 1969, city officials say. Some government-subsidised housing has been built and almost \$7 million has been spent on improvements since 1983, they add.

"As long as you don't have any housing, you're not going to have desirable residents," said resident Edward Manning.

The business climate, however, seems like a minor problem compared with the drug dealing, gangs and violence.

Horror stories

Hampton, for example, a 30-year-old with three teen-agers and a baby, has survived four apartments and 14 years of horror stories: She's fended off giant rats slurping out of her toilet, been forced out by an arsonist, faced drug users shooting up in the hallway and seen murder victims,

including a decapitated man.

"I've seen a lot of disaster," she said, adding that she carries a knife by day, a gun at night. "We have a lot of lunatics out here."

Drug trafficking wasn't always a problem, and the gangs of decades past directed their violence at each other.

"They didn't bother those of us doing good things," said O'Quinn, who with her husband runs a drum and bugle corps for youths. "The gangs don't respect anything now."

Mootry confirmed gangs are more lethal. Knives and chains have been replaced by Uzi sub-machine guns and other sophisticated weapons.

A great tragedy

Yet the biggest problem, he said, may be a perception among youths that North Lawndale is "an island... a walled city (where) nothing comes in and nothing comes out. That is the way in which they are socialised. That's a great tragedy."

Mootry's organisation tries to broaden horizons, offering recreational and education programmes, including scholarships that have sent teen-agers to university. Block clubs, slum-busting projects and infant health programmes also have been started.

Manning and others say a comeback depends on residents flexing political muscle — something they learned to do with the 1983 election of Harold Washington, Chicago's first black mayor who died last year and is regarded with the same reverence as King.

"We have been at the lowest of low," said Jesse Miller, head of the Lawndale Peoples Planning and Action Conference, an activist group. "The citizens of this community are facing up to the problems."

Miller says North Lawndale's problems may be the same as they were a generation ago, except for one difference: "The political maturity is there now."

"There's still hope"

If King were alive, "I think



American civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. with coworkers: If he returned to his old

Chicago neighbourhood, would he think his worst nightmare had come true? (File photo)